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FRONTLINE FEAR
The Serbs are upon us. My only urge is to run.
ANTHONY LOYD, P13

25P

THE TIMES

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WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 4 1995

HK

'The incredible nightmare is over... Some day people will believe I did not kill anyone'

Jury clears OJ Simpson of murder

By GILES WHITTILL IN LOS ANGELES AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

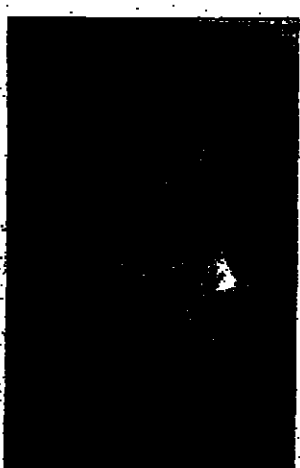
OJ. SIMPSON returned a free man to his home in Los Angeles last night after being cleared of killing his former wife and her friend in a stunning end to a sensational trial that has transfixed America for nearly a year.

Millions of television viewers all over the world had earlier seen the former football star's face break into a huge triumphant grin as the court clerk read the jury's not-guilty verdict, reached after less than five hours' deliberation on Monday.

But as Mr Simpson patting his heart and hugging his lawyer, relatives of the victims broke into loud sobs, before staggering from the Los Angeles courtroom. Fred Goldman, whose 25-year-old son Ronald was slashed to death in June last year with Nicole Brown Simpson, was heard shouting: "No, no, no, murderer, murderer." Later, he told a press conference: "The prosecution did not lose today. I deeply believe this country lost today. Justice was served."

Mr Simpson meanwhile issued a statement vowing to catch whoever killed his ex-wife and Mr Goldman. "When things are settled a bit, I will pursue as my primary goal in life the killer or killers who slaughtered Nicole and Mr Goldman," the statement read by his son, Jason, said. "They are out there somewhere. Whenever it takes to identify them and bring them in, I'll provide sanctuary."

He added that he was relieved the "this part of the nightmare" was over and



Marcia Clark looked stunned by the verdict

promised to bring his children to his mother's home where he expected to seek refuge. Justin and Arnette, the statement concluded: "I can only hope that some day, despite every prejudicial thing that has been said about me publicly both in and out of the courtroom, people will come to understand and believe that I would not, could not, and did not kill anyone."

In the courtroom, there was an air of frenzy as the verdict was announced. Mr Simpson embraced all his lawyers and mouthed the words "thank you" to the jurors, one of whom offered the black power salute in return. Mr Simpson's mother, Eunice, sat back in her wheelchair and raised her arms silently to the ceiling while her granddaughter, Arnette, smiling, through tears, also looked upwards.

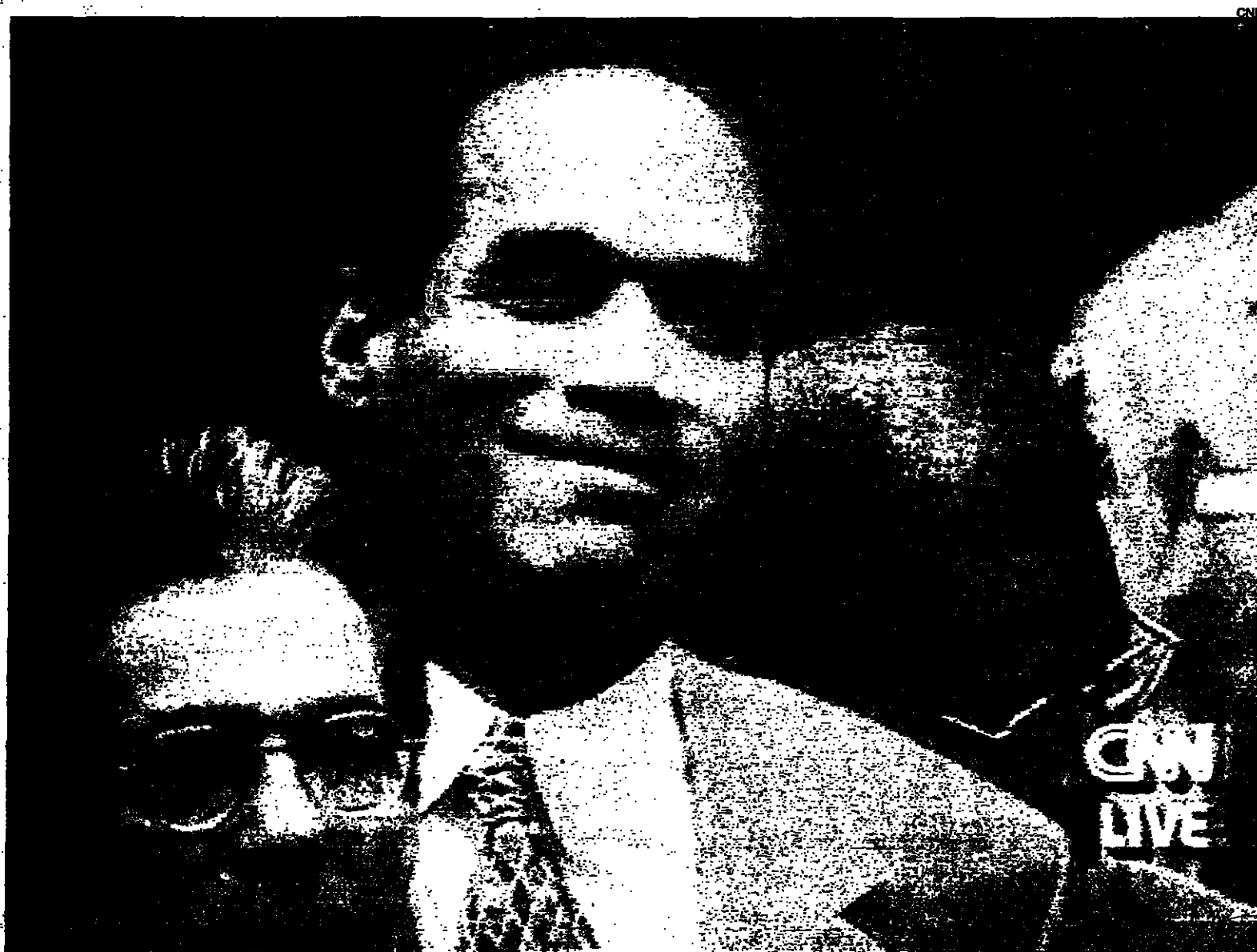
The prosecutors Marcia Clark and Christopher Darden looked stunned at the verdict, but Mr Darden insisted afterwards: "I'm not bitter. I'm not angry." William Hodgson, a senior member of the prosecution team, simply described the result as "a great disappointment".

Outside the court, hundreds of Simpson supporters celebrated wildly, dancing on the pavements and waving their hands in triumph. The police department had mobilised hundreds of extra officers throughout the city in case the verdict sparked rioting. A police helicopter hovered over the court and bomb squad officers checked the area, but Police Chief Willie Williams said no trouble was expected.

After the jurors — nine black, two white and one Latin — had individually confirmed their verdicts, Judge Lance Ito ordered that Mr Simpson be "transported to an appropriate clearing facility and released forthwith." The ten women and two men of the jury were then formally excused further service after more than 260 days.

Mr Simpson was then whisked in an armoured Sheriff's Department bus, escorted by a Los Angeles Police Department SWAT team, back to the men's central jail where he has lived since last June. Within 20 minutes, his paperwork had been signed, his personal effects returned and he was on his way home.

Television cameras that had recorded Mr Simpson's dramatic low-speed car chase



Relief on the face of O.J. Simpson as the "not guilty" verdict is read out. With him are his defence lawyers F. Lee Bailey and Johnnie Cochran

before his arrest sixteen months ago were there again yesterday, this time to watch a white van carry him from jail to his estate in the suburb of Brentwood. There, America's most famous murder defendant was greeted by his friend Al Cowlings, who drove his car in the procession last year.

Both prosecution and defence teams were meanwhile giving their views on the outcome of the trial at press conferences; the defence lawyer Johnnie Cochran opening his with the words: "First I want to thank God. He always directs our paths and he's

worthy to be praised. We think this verdict bespeaks justice. Mr Simpson, needless to say, is ecstatic and he wants to get on with his life."

Every major American television network and a number of overseas stations cut into their regular programming for live broadcasts of the grand finale in the so-called "Trial of the Century", which lasted over a year, including jury selection and encompassed about 120 witnesses, 45,000 pages of transcripts and 1,000 exhibits.

In nine months of testimony and a week of fiery closing

arguments, prosecutors and defence attorneys presented such diametrically opposed theories that some legal analysts wondered at times whether they were talking about the same case.

Prosecutors depicted the celebrity defendant as a man so obsessed with his beautiful ex-wife that when he learned that he could no longer control her, he killed her in a murderous rage. Mr Goldman was struck down, prosecutors said, because he was "in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Without a murder weapon, an eyewitness or a confession,

however, they presented a case built on what they described as a "mountain" of circumstantial evidence.

Prosecutors described a "trail of blood" leading from the murder scene to Simpson's mansion and presented a pair of matching bloody gloves, a blood-stained sock and strands of hair and fibers. Finally, they pointed to compelling DNA evidence showing an infinitesimal chance of the blood belonging to anyone but Mr Simpson.

But Mr Simpson's defence team painted their celebrity client as the innocent victim of

a police evidence-planting conspiracy led by a racist rogue policeman, now-retired Detective Mark Fuhrman.

In Britain, the National Grid reported a "very significant drop" in power consumption as the verdicts were announced. The amount of electricity used fell by 1,300 to 1,300 megawatts — enough to power a large town — as people turned off appliances while they watched the courtroom scenes before slowly returning to normal.

Giles Whittill, page 16
Leading article, page 17

Appeal to patriotism as Blair seeks the transformation of Britain

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR announced his ambition to take Labour to power for a generation yesterday as he appealed to the patriotism of ordinary voters to help him to turn Britain into a nation reborn.

In a highly-acclaimed speech to the party conference in Brighton, the Labour leader set out his plans to transform the country and sweep away old divisions through a technological revolution and a return to traditional family and moral values.

It was a speech that mixed an idealism designed to touch the nerve of his party audience and the country outside with a series of hard-headed warnings about the tough choices ahead and firm policy commitments. He spoke throughout about making

Britain young again by burying "class, hostility, and burning cynicism. The 63-minute address, containing echoes of Harold Wilson's "white heat of technology" vision in 1963, was delivered with a fervour that occasionally bordered on the evangelical.

After a summer in which he has faced his first serious internal criticism, Mr Blair demanded discipline to get Labour into office, declaring that the poor and needy wanted action which they would not get through the "rage of opposition". He put his party on election footing telling activists that it would be "a battle for the soul of our nation."

He told Labour that it could not change the country if it had not changed itself, and he pledged that it would work with the people to achieve lasting change. He declared: "I do not want a one-term Labour Government that dazzles for a moment then ends in disillusion. I want a Labour Government that governs for a generation and changes Britain for good."

"I will do all I can to get the Tories out. And I will devote every breath I breathe, every sinew of my body, to ensuring that your grandchildren get to live in a new and better world." At the heart of his pledges was the announcement of a ground-breaking deal with British Telecom to



connect free of charge every school, hospital and library to the information superhighway, at a cost of £15 billion. In return a Labour government will lift the restriction which prevents BT selling home entertainment services to domestic customers.

After declaring that education was the best economic policy, Mr Blair promised measures to limit class sizes, guaranteeing that in infant schools every child would be taught in a class of fewer than 30 pupils, and every child would have access to a laptop computer. He announced proposals to take a million single parents off benefit and into work with free childcare and career advice and confirmed plans to bring in a minimum

6 Politicians used to think that if the audience didn't like the message you changed the message. Mr Blair has changed the audience.

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potential heads prove their leadership skills before taking a post, and for his warning to public sector workers that they would have to make sacrifices under a Labour government.

He promised that Labour would not take risks with inflation, but that the new Labour party would never turn its back on the poor, the homeless and the unemployed in its bid for wider support. "I have spent 16 years being angry, passionate and indignant — about young people huddled in doorways, families made wretched by unemployment, the poor unable to make ends meet," he said.

"I am fed up with anger. They don't need our anger, they need action. They will get it not through the rage of opposition, but through a Labour Party that has had the courage to take hard choices, get into government and do something for them." I love my party, I just hate it being in opposition. I love my country and I hate what the Tories have done to it — every promise ever made broken, taxes, unemployment, crime, the NHS, education."

His play for the patriotic mantle will unnerve the Tories. He said: "I challenge this country. Let us rouse ourselves to a new moral purpose for the nation... working together. Unity. Solidarity. Partnership. One Britain. That is the patriotism for the future."

Judge tells West jury to clear their minds

By BILL FROST

OCCASIONALLY clutching the gold crucifix around her neck, Rosemary West came face-to-face yesterday with the jury who will decide whether she murdered ten young women, among them her teenage daughter.

She peered intently through heavy-framed spectacles at the eight men and four women as the trial judge, Mr Justice Mantell, told them that theirs was a heavy duty. They must clear their minds of "prejudice, preconceptions and sentiment", he said.

Dressed in a black double-breasted suit and green waistcoat, the mother of seven looked pale as she was brought into the dock at Winchester Crown Court No 3 at 10.34am. She stood showing no emotion while the charges that she had murdered 10 women, including her eldest daughter Heather, 16, and her stepdaughter Charmaine, eight, were read.

The judge told the jury that the case, which will last up to ten weeks, might begin on Friday. They were dismissed while he heard legal submissions.

A prison van took Mrs West from the court after six hours, watched by a silent crowd of about a hundred.

Jury warned, page 4

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O. J. Simpson's white Ford Bronco being chased by police on a California motorway in June last year after he failed to surrender. The televised event, showing crowds cheering him on with cries of "Run O. J., run", became a hit video

America glued to small screen for the final act

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

TELEVISION

FOR a few minutes yesterday, America ground to a halt for the finale of the most captivating soap opera of all time. As the verdict in the O. J. Simpson trial was announced to a hushed Los Angeles courtroom, it was already the stuff of legend.

From the White House to Wall Street, from Silicon Valley to Santa Fe, audiences were transfixed by the final moments of what has been labelled the trial of the century, an

event covered by nine national television stations as well as dozens of local broadcasters. Advertisements running before or after the appointed moment were selling at \$200,000 (£125,000) for a 30-second spot, more than six times the average rate, while last night's viewership was expected to bring in the highest ratings yet on American television.

ABC, the national network, revised its entire prime-time schedule

to accommodate a special report last night, while CBS and NBC offered continuous coverage from 7am to 5pm. CNN, which had covered the trial live for the past year, also began its coverage at 7am and continued in bursts until 10.30pm.

A congressional recess allowed O. J. aficionados on Capitol Hill the rare pleasure of home viewing while few in the Administration missed an opportunity to witness the last act as they sat eating light lunches in Washington offices.

President Clinton interrupted a

scheduled meeting in the Oval Office to watch the verdict at 1pm and White House officials dropped their Medicare memorandums and Bosnia briefs to savour the moment. "I don't think there is anyone here who didn't want to watch this. You felt you had to," said a member of Vice-President Al Gore's staff.

At the Pentagon, William Perry, the Defence Secretary, who had shown little previous interest in the case, had his schedule cleared for a rare 15 minutes at the appointed time. "I think the generals have not been that interested, but from

colonel down there has been talk of little else since the jury returned," a member of Mr Perry's staff said.

Calls to stockbrokers in Wall Street were met by the ubiquitous recorded message as foreign exchange floors all but stopped to function during Judge Lance Ito's final delivery. Traditional lawyers' firms, some of which have no access to a television, stopped work as employees rushed out of buildings in search of the nearest available screen.

At Rikers Island, the notorious jail in New York, prisoners were

expected to listen to the verdict but otherwise, said a spokesman, it would be "a normal day".

Few were prepared to compete with Mr Simpson for the public's attention. In Georgia, Senator Sam Nunn delayed an expected address about his political future while James Baker, the former Secretary of State, put off a lunch to promote his new book at the National Press Club in Washington after last-minute cancellations by many journalists.

In Los Angeles, a reunion was cancelled of the original Mouse-

keepers, personalities who became famous in the 1950s and 1960s promoting Mickey Mouse. Restaurants in big cities throughout America ordered extra television sets to be installed for a day that owners hoped would prove a boom for business. Some even served special O. J. cocktails.

Only the Jockey Club in Washington, eating place for the capital's elite, refrained from making any official announcement. "Most of our customers always find out their news by cellular telephone," the manager said.

Gavel-to-gavel coverage adds weight to case against cameras

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN

THE unprecedented soap-opera coverage of the O. J. Simpson trial is thought to have firmly quashed the chances of any move towards televising trials in Britain.

The gavel-to-gavel reporting gave British viewers a new insight into American-style justice. However Stephen Kay, secretary of the Criminal Bar Association, said most criminal barristers felt the British ban on allowing cameras into the courtroom should remain. He said the O. J. publicity "has put the clock right back, if not quashed any chances for good" of televising trials in Britain.

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the Lord Chief Justice, has strong reservations about the televising of trials, particularly criminal cases, and the O. J.

Simpson trial will have strengthened his opposition. Cameras are prohibited in courts in England and Wales under the Criminal Justice Act 1925, despite efforts by the Bar Council to promote a Bill to lift the ban and allow at least an experiment in the televising of certain trials, such as appeals or House of Lords cases. Support grew last year after the first screening of British justice in a BBC2 documentary series called *The Trial*.

Sky Television, which screened nightly coverage of the O. J. trial, is keen to show court proceedings; and Steve Brill, the founder and head of Court TV, the dedicated American channel, has also expressed interest in covering British trials.

Mr Kay said, however, that

the trial had shown the way media publicity could dominate the trial. "It has demonstrated the way cameras cause people's behaviour to change so they are acting not for the benefit of the court but for the wider public, and the battleground moves outside the courtroom," he said.

The presence of the cameras also greatly lengthened a trial that could have been accomplished in about four weeks in Britain. Mr Kay said there was a danger that public opinion would be swayed through edited highlights, which did not take account of all the evidence. "How many of us remembered the taxi-driver's evidence, which turned out to be crucial?"

Worse, evidence or lines of argument would be "leaked" through the media and tested on the public before being used in the courtroom, he said.

"This attempt to influence the public outside the courtroom was made because it was a way of seeing how the jury could be influenced."

However Jonathan Caplan, QC, who chaired a report on televising trials for the Bar Council, said that although the screening of the O. J. Simpson trial had shown "that the Californian system of State justice leaves much to be desired", he believed it had been of some educational benefit. "Television coverage has probably been one of the better ways of keeping people informed of the daily progress of the trial."

He still strongly supports an experiment to allow cameras into certain trials. "I am opposed to televising courts for the purposes of entertainment. Obviously, we would not want a pilot project here putting cameras into the trial of Rosemary West. But there is a whole range of other court business which can be shown, because they involve issues of public interest, in the High Court and appellate courts."

Helena Kennedy, QC, said in a lecture last week as chancellor of Oxford Brookes University, that the American legal culture and system were different from Britain's, allowing much more press comment. The contempt laws in Britain would prevent the same kind of mass-media coverage.

Black forewoman reluctant to serve

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

JURY

THE forewoman for the jury is a South Central resident in her early 50s who reluctantly agreed to serve on the panel. "I don't think I would have jumped at the chance to apply," the black woman, a county employee, said during selection for \$5-a-day (£3) jury service requiring lengthy sequestration.

She was selected forewoman after just three minutes of discussion. Like the rest of the jurors, her name was not revealed. What little is known about her emerged in answers to questions by attorneys in jury selection. Her responses on the jury questionnaire and her statements to the judge during jury investigations.

She insisted that she could keep separate what she heard in the news and what she heard from the witness stand. "I'd stay with the evidence," she said.

The rest of the 12-person jury were:
Juror 2: Black married female postal worker, 28, who was an alternate.
Juror 3: White divorced woman, 60, retired, held out in another murder case.
Juror 4: Hispanic, married male lorry driver, 32, who

spoke throughout about how he missed his four-year-old son.
Juror 5: Black woman, 37, married, self-employed.
Juror 6: Black man, 43, married, marketing representative, who described Simpson as a good football player.
Juror 7: Black woman, 44, single, who repairs computers and printers, was an alternate.
Juror 8: Black woman, 38, single, health specialist whose father was a police officer, familiar with DNA testing, one of two college graduates on the panel.
Juror 9: Black woman, 52, divorced, postal worker, who watches television murder mysteries.
Juror 10: Black woman, 24, single, county hospital worker and babysitter, prior jury experience, was an alternate.
She replaced Willie Cravin, who was removed from the jury allegedly for intimidating other panelists.
Juror 11: White woman, 22, single, insurance claims adjuster, the second college graduate on the panel.
Juror 12: Black woman, 71, married, retired cleaning officer, was an alternate.



Legal line-up: Johnnie Cochran, left, defence team leader, Marcia Clark, and Christopher Darden, right

Duellists in a courtroom battle of wits

□ Marcia Clark: Workaholic Marcia Clark led the prosecution team (Giles Whitell writes). At 41, she is the Los Angeles District Attorney's expert on DNA cases and a murder trial veteran.

Since last June, she has shot to fame for her fiery protests over Simpson defence tactics and her dogged assembly of a complex case based on a "mountain" of circumstantial evidence. She takes great pains over her courtroom image and made formal application for an increased dress allowance at the start of the trial. She shows no sign of wanting to leave the DA's office despite a relatively paltry salary of \$96,000 (£60,000).

□ Barry Scheck: The surprise star of the defence team, Barry Scheck, 45, is one of America's top DNA attorneys and a Brooklyn law professor. His expertise in genetic fingerprinting is usually deployed in the cause of impoverished defendants. He joined the defence with his New York

colleague, Peter Neufeld, halfway through the trial and attacked police handling of blood evidence against Mr Simpson. The attack hit home in their cross-examination of Dennis Fung, a criminologist.

□ Judge Lance Ito: By turns overly patient and cuttingly short-tempered, Judge Ito brought the trial to a conclusion despite almost losing

control of both its lawyers and its jury. The 45-year-old Japanese-American is a dedicated jurist of the so-called "Truth School" who strives after justice — not just fair trials — in his court.

□ Johnnie Cochran: The 57-year-old leader of O. J. Simpson's \$6 million (£3.7 million) "dream team" is California's — and possibly America's — best known black attorney. Mr Cochran, whose previous clients include Michael Jack-

son, joined Mr Simpson's defence reluctantly, citing a conflict of interest since the two were personal friends.

□ Christopher Darden: The prosecution's No. 2 attorney was criticised for "allowing O. J. Simpson to try on the infamous 'bloody glove' without checking whether it would fit. But Mr Darden's inquisitive, folksy contributions to opening and closing arguments have been praised for holding jurors' attention.

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A LESSON IN ECONOMICS

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TIMOTONSS

For almost everyone, the long melodrama and legal minuets failed to shift rooted opinions

Hero who became the measure of a divided nation

By BEN MACINTYRE

LONG before Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman were horribly murdered, Orenthal James Simpson was a living icon to millions whose skin colour only enhanced his achievements: the black man, made good, football hero, humble front-man for the Hertz car hire company, millionaire, funny film star.

With his arrest and trial on charges of double murder, that already heady symbolism was instantly transformed into a far more potent and frightening quality. O.J. became a barometer for America's fissile race relations, largely irrespective of his guilt or innocence.

An opinion poll taken by CBS News and the Los Angeles jury began deliberations found 64 per cent of whites believed Simpson was probably guilty, while 11 per cent reckoned he was probably innocent. Among blacks, that

statistic was almost exactly reversed: 12 per cent felt he was probably guilty, while 59 per cent thought the opposite.

The racial gulf revealed by those numbers may be stark enough, but more extraordinary yet is the fact that they have remained virtually unchanged since the judicial process began a year ago.

In other words, America has sat through the blanket television coverage, the Simpson jokes, the excruciatingly tedious and ugly legal minutiae and the flashes of melodrama — and virtually no one has changed their mind about O.J. Simpson: he still represents one face to blacks and another to whites.

America has a unique gift — or weakness — for turning the legal process into a vehicle for societal self-examination: the Menendez brothers' trial was about child abuse and money; the William Kennedy

Smith and Mike Tyson trials were about date rape and money, the Branch Davidian trial was about government power and guns.

Initially, the Simpson trial appeared to be falling into a similar pattern — as a trial about spousal abuse (and money). But, within days of the murders, the preeminence of the racial theme became glaringly apparent.

"In that the Simpson trial has more in common with the Rodney King legal marathon of bitter memory than any of the celebrity trials.

An early sign of what was in store came when a US news magazine published Simpson's mug-shot on its front cover but artificially darkened the image, immediately prompting accusations that he was being made to appear more menacing, blacker, and, therefore, guiltier.

Simpson's defence team has used the incendiary race card egregiously, flagrantly, and with a cynical awareness of its effect outside the courtroom.

Even before a jury was assembled, the defence ploy to discredit Mark Fuhrman as a loud-mouthed racist was leaked to the media. In his summation, Johnnie Cochran compared the police detective to Hitler.

For the majority of black Americans the question at issue is not whether Simpson is guilty, but whether any African-American can get a fair trial in a society riddled with racial prejudice.

Every event in the Simpson trial-comedy-farce has been seen through this distorted prism, most notably when Simpson took to the LA freeway in his white Ford Bronco (now a collector's item).

Black supporters saw a brother and fellow victim making a bid for freedom and cheered him on with cries of "Run O.J., Run". Most whites simply saw a guilty man evading justice on prime-time television.

Talk to almost any young black person from the ghetto, particularly on the streets of



O.J. Simpson with his ex-wife Nicole and their children, daughter Sidney Brooke, nine, and son Justin, six, at an LA film premiere in March 1994

LA, and they will tell you that O.J. has been framed.

It is a conviction that springs from the heart rather than the head — and in many cases from hard experience of a system that is undeniably weighted against blacks — and is the more explosive for it.

By the logic of this belief, even O.J.'s acquittal will be seen as a consequence of his money and in spite of his race,

so deep is the presumption of bias. As his lawyers have avidly stoked the fires of racial animosity, so Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman and the facts of their grisly deaths have somehow faded from the scene.

O.J. has become absorbed into the American language, part of the way American citizens variously perceive themselves and their society, a symbol of belief as immune

to rational analysis as any other idol.

Quick return: Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan cut short an Asian tour in Tokyo yesterday to return home.

"The eyes of the world are on Los Angeles. As the leader of the city, Mayor Riordan feels a responsibility to be in Los Angeles at the time of this announcement," the Mayor's office said in a brief statement. (AP)

17 months that put American justice on trial

KEY DATES

June 12, 1994: Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman stabbed to death.

June 13: Simpson arrives in Chicago. Detectives go to his estate and conduct warrantless search. Back in Los Angeles, Simpson is questioned.

June 16: Simpson accompanies his children Sydney and Justin, to Nicole's funeral. Friends and family attend Goldman funeral.

June 17: Simpson charged with murder. Failing to surrender as promised, he is spotted in white Ford Bronco with friend Al Cowling driving. Police follow, ending at Simpson's home, where he is arrested.

July 22: Simpson pleads "absolutely, 100 per cent not guilty". Case assigned to Superior Court Judge Lance Ito.

August 22: Court papers disclose that some DNA tests show Simpson's blood has same genetic make-up as samples from blood trail leading from murder scene.

September 9: Prosecutors announce that they will seek sentence of life without parole rather than the death penalty.

January 11, 1995: The jury is sequestered.

January 20: Judge Ito allows possibility of Detective Mark Fuhrman's racism introduced if defence can prove it relevant.

January 24: Ito rejects Simpson's request to speak directly to jurors before defence opening statements but he does allow him to show scars on his knees. Prosecutors Christopher Darden and Marcia Clark begin opening statements.

February 3: Denise Brown testifies how Simpson humiliated her sister and once hurled her against a wall.

March 15: Fuhrman denies using racial slur in past ten years.

April 21: Jurors wear black and refuse to hear testimony for day after three deputies who guarded panel are reassigned amid charges of giving preferential treatment to white jurors.

June 5: After juror dismissals, final jury make-up is nine blacks, one Hispanic and two whites; ten women, two men.

June 15: Simpson fails to pull on bloody gloves found at murder scene and his estate.

July 6: Prosecution rests.

August 29: Excerpts of recorded interviews between Fuhrman and screenwriter played with jury absent.

August 31: Ito rules that jurors will hear only two of 61 excerpts. Lawyer Robert Tourtelot says he will no longer act as Fuhrman's spokesman or represent him in civil matters.

September 7: The defence



Goldman: died with Simpson's wife

says that Simpson will not testify.

September 18: Prosecution conditionally rests.

September 21: Ito gives jurors option of finding Simpson guilty of second-degree murder.

September 22: Defence and prosecution rest. Simpson tells judge: "I did not, could not and would not have committed this crime."

September 29: Prosecution presents rebuttal arguments. Judge gives final jury instructions: case goes to jury.

October 2: Jury deliberations begin and end in less than four hours.

Acquittal averts immediate danger of nationwide riots

FROM MARTIN FURTNER IN WASHINGTON

O.J. SIMPSON'S astonishing acquittal yesterday averted the danger of riots across the United States, but did nothing to improve the country's smouldering race relations.

Most white Americans were convinced of Mr Simpson's guilt and will see the verdict as proof that black jurors — in the interests of racial solidarity — would never convict a fellow black of Mr Simpson's stature, however damning the evidence.

The verdict was the mirror image of a 1992 trial in which a mostly white jury acquitted four white Los Angeles police officers, despite a video showing them beating Rodney

King, a black motorist. That verdict enraged the city's black community, sparking the worst race riots in American history.

This case is hardly likely to prompt whites to take to the streets in fury, but at the very least it will lead to demands for drastic reforms of the criminal justice system. These would include changes to the process of jury selection and allowing jurors to reach majority verdicts to prevent lone jurors from thwarting justice on purely racial grounds.

What the trial really exposed was the dangerously wide gulf that has developed between black and white Americans in their percep-

tions of the society in which they live.

To most whites the evidence against Mr Simpson was overwhelming. They considered the defence assertion that the former football star and actor had been framed by a racist Los Angeles Police Department as completely incredible.

To most blacks, including the nine black jurors, that argument seemed eminently plausible. A US News and World Report opinion poll published last weekend showed that 60 per cent of American blacks believed the police often frame innocent people, and other recent polls disclosed that at least two-thirds of blacks believed Mr Simpson was innocent.

Johnnie Cochran, Mr Simpson's black lawyer, played the race card for all it was worth. He knew the King case still ranked the black community in Los Angeles. He was extraordinarily lucky when the virulent racism of Mark Fuhrman, the detective who had gathered evidence at Mr Simpson's home, was so dramatically exposed during the trial. Mr Cochran concluded his case with a powerful demand that the jury acquit Mr Simpson to rein in America's rampaging racist police forces.

The trial also took place at a time when black Americans are feeling increasingly threatened by the white establishment. The Republican-dominated Congress has declared war on affirmative action programmes that were designed to redress America's long history of racial discrimination.

The Republicans are drastically curbing health and welfare programmes that benefit blacks disproportionately, and the Democratic Party, which traditionally has fought the black corner, is in a state of collapse. A number of bestselling books by conservative academics, notably Charles Murray's *The Bell Curve*, have popularised the idea that white Americans are not responsible for the black predicament. Yesterday's verdict may have averted riots, but it suggests the potential for a future racial conflagration is great.



Vidal on Vidal

GINNY DOUGARY TALKS TO GORE VIDAL ABOUT HIS MEMOIR

IN THE

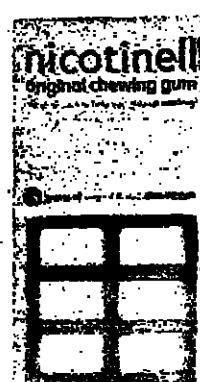
MAGAZINE

PLUS: WEEKEND, CAR 95, WEEKEND MONEY, 1015 AND VISION — THE SEVEN-DAY TV AND RADIO GUIDE

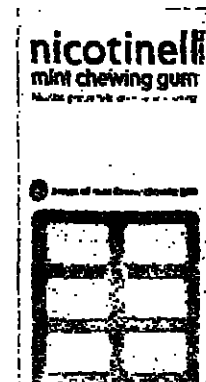
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to giving up smoking...



...now new nicotinell gum tastes so good.



That was the moment I knew I was getting somewhere. You see, he hadn't given me a kiss and hug like that for ages. He obviously preferred a smoke-free mum. It was all the encouragement I needed to carry on chewing the new gum I'd just bought. I was trying new mint Nicotinell and it tasted so good, so fresh I knew if I was determined enough it could help me quit. Right now I'm chewing original flavour. It's sugar-free like the mint one and helps beat cravings just as powerfully. I feel as if with Nicotinell I'm not only closer to him but closer to quitting. It needn't be hell with nicotinell.



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Judge's warning in historic courtroom as woman goes on trial accused of 10 murders

No place for sentiment, West jurors are told

By Bill Frost
and Richard Duce

JURORS were told yesterday that they must banish "all preconceptions, prejudice and sentiment" from their minds as evidence unfolds in the case of Rosemary West.

Mr Justice Mantell told them: "Enter upon your very heavy responsibility in a clear-cut way, unaffected by anything you may have read about this case, which certainly has its sensational aspects." Jurors must ensure that they did not talk even to members of their family about the case, he said. "You are perfectly at liberty to say you are serving on the jury which is trying Rosemary West on ten charges of murder. Beyond that, say nothing."

The swearing in of eight men and four women jurors began the formal proceedings at the historic Winchester Crown Court, adjacent to the Great Hall where Sir Walter Raleigh was found guilty of treason in 1603.

Respectable Mrs West, 41, had been brought in a prison van from the nearby Winchester jail an hour before she entered the dock. She is being held in a basement cell of the prison's C wing. Behind the tinted glass of the van, she had appeared to bow her head between her knees.

In the oak-panelled number three courtroom, she watched intently as the jurors were selected by ballot from a potential list of 30. Beside her were two young women prison officers, with a male officer positioned in the far corner of the dock.

Each potential juror was asked to indicate whether they knew the defendant, or any witnesses or police, or they would not be called to serve. It took only minutes for the eight men and four women to be called to the jury box. Eleven members formally took the oath while one man gave an affirmation.

Then Mrs West, a mother of seven, stood impassively, her hands clasped in front of her, as the ten murder counts were read out by Angela Merridale, the court clerk. On each side of her, the women prison officers, one blonde and one dark-haired, stood with their hands clasped behind their backs, their white open-necked blouses contrasting sharply with their dark blue uniforms.

Throughout the formal reading, Mrs West sometimes looked towards the jury, but mostly looking ahead.

The glass-fronted public gallery was full of members of the public and journalists, craning their necks to watch the events below. The dock and Mrs West were out of sight immediately below them.

At end of the formal reading, the clerk told the jurors: "To this indictment she has pleaded not guilty and it is



The view from the dock: an artist's impression of the scene inside Winchester's Court Number Three yesterday at the start of the Rosemary West trial. Illustration: Sián Frances.

THE JUDGE

Mr Justice Mantell, 58, is a former grammar school boy with a passion for cricket. He is the presiding judge on the Western Circuit. Sir Charles Mantell was educated at Manchester Grammar School and read law at the city's university. Called to the bar in 1960, he became a Crown Court recorder in 1978 and took silk in 1979. A judge of the Supreme Court in Hong Kong for three years, he was knighted in 1990.

THE CHARGES

Rosemary West is charged with ten murders. She is accused of killing Charmaine West, aged eight, between May and December 31, 1971. Charmaine was the daughter of Frederick West's first wife, Catherine Costello. The girl's remains were found at the Wests' former home at 25 Midland Road, Gloucester. Lynda Gough, aged 19, Miss Gough was born in Glossop, Derbyshire, and vanished in April 1973. Carol Ann Cooper, aged 15, she was in the care of Worcester County Council but disappeared on November 10, 1973 after going out with friends. Lucy Partington, aged 21, Miss Partington was a third-year English student at Exeter University who disappeared on December 27, 1973. Therese Siegenthaler, aged 21, Swiss-born Therese was studying sociology at a London college and disappeared at 1974. Shirley Hubbard, aged 15, she lived with foster-parents and disappeared in November 1974. Juanita Mott, 18, she was born in Gloucester and was

last seen in April 1975. Shirley Anne Robinson, aged 18, she was last seen in Gloucester in May 1978. Her remains were found buried in the garden of 25 Cromwell Street, Alison Chambers, aged 19, she lived at a children's home in Gloucester, but disappeared in August 1979. Heather West, aged 16, the first child of Fred and Rosemary West, she was the first person whose body to be uncovered at 25 Cromwell Street. She disappeared in June, 1987, after her GCSE exams.

PROSECUTION

Brian Leveson, QC, 46, has been involved in some high-profile cases including the prosecution of Ken Dodd, the comedian, on charges of income tax evasion. Mr Leveson, who took silk in 1986, led the team of lawyers who presented the case against George Graham, the former Arsenal football manager, over allegations that he received secret cash payments during transfer deals. He is normally based in Manchester.

DEFENCE

Rosemary West's defence will be led by Richard Ferguson, QC, a skilled cross-examiner and a former Ulster Unionist MP. Mr Ferguson, 60, successfully defended the boxer Terry Marsh when he was charged with attempted murder, helped to overturn the judgment in the case of the Birmingham Six and pleaded for Ernest Saunders in the marathon Guinness trial. He is chairman of the Criminal Bar Association.

your charge to say, having heard all the evidence, whether she is guilty or not of all or any of these charges."

Still flanked by the prison officers, Mrs West then sat down and the jurors were then sent home, as Mr Justice Mantell, the senior presiding judge of the Western Circuit, said he would hear legal argument in their absence.

The judge said he or his court ushers should be told if anyone persisted in forcing their views on any juror. No one else would try Rosemary West, said the judge. "That is precisely your duty, ladies and gentlemen of the jury. You are perfectly at liberty to discuss this matter among yourselves. However, you must only do that if you are all present."

He also indicated that the prosecution was now expected

to open its case on Friday morning, although the jurors might be called back earlier.

The judge said that "some very substantial questions of law" had to be decided in the case at the outset, and it was neither necessary nor desirable that they should be present while this was being done.

Mrs West remained in the dock. She did not utter a single word during the formal proceedings, but she appeared to follow them intently.

Mrs West's husband Frederick, 53, a builder, was found hanging in his remand cell at Winson Green prison, Birmingham, on New Year's Day. A full inquest has yet to be held into his death.

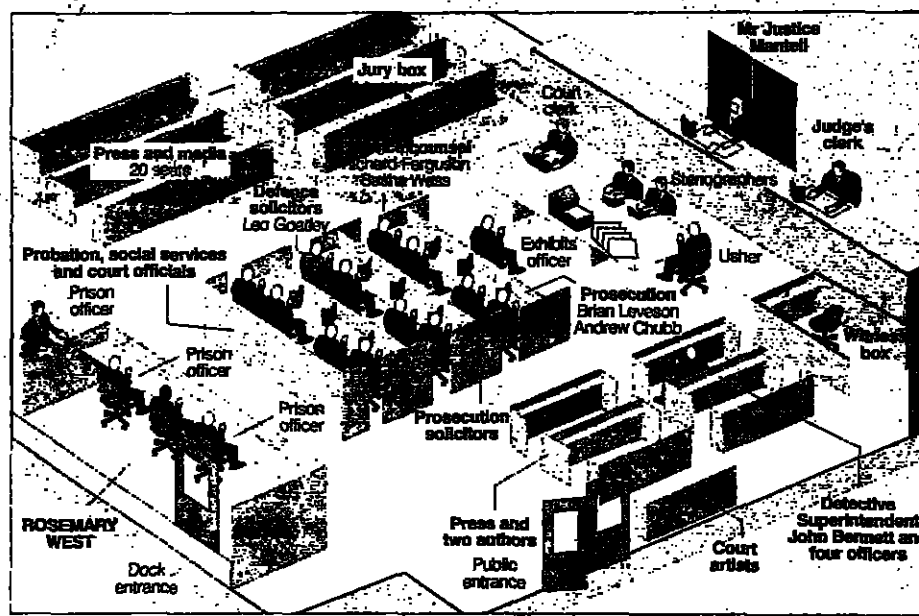
Frederick West had been charged with the same alleged murders as his wife. He alone

was also further charged with having murdered his first wife, Catherine, 25, and Anne-Marie, 18, a Scottish baby-minder.

Last night, Mrs West was back in her remand prison cell after nearly six hours at Winchester Crown Court. Office workers left their desks to join a crowd of about 100 who watched in silence as a curtain-off prison van took her from the court to the city's jail. Two police outsiders escorted the van and roads were closed.

The trial is expected to last up to eight weeks but the court will not sit today, as Jewish lawyers will be observing Yom Kippur. Additionally, the Winchester judges will carry out ceremonies to mark the start of the legal year.

Judge's call, page 1



BBC limits reporters to two days in court and offers counselling

By Richard Duce

STRESS counselling is being offered to BBC correspondents in Winchester who have been told to spend no more than two days at a stretch on the press bench during the trial, expected to last up to eight weeks. The evidence is believed to be so harrowing that longer may be damaging.

Counselling was offered to BBC journalists who covered the committal proceedings at Dursley, Gloucestershire, in February. Corporation management were said to be concerned that their reporters might suffer post-traumatic stress disorder after listening to the evidence.

Every national media org-

anisation is represented at the trial, with reporters and camera crews from Australia, France, Germany and Spain. UPI, the news agency serving America, is also there but its reporter admitted his market was obsessed with another trial yesterday as the O.J. Simpson jury delivered its verdict in Los Angeles.

The French confessed to being fascinated with the West case. A television producer said: "In our country Ruth Rendell mysteries are a big seller. This case has all the elements of a classic thriller."

Thirty seats have been allocated inside court number

THE MEDIA

three for the media, and all were full yesterday. An annex with audio links has been set up in two first-floor courtrooms for reporters who have not been given seats.

The BBC has hired empty office space above Moss Bros, close to the court, to relay reports and pictures back to London. Outside the court building, police have lined the pavement with crash barriers for when Mrs West enters and leaves. An additional 15 police officers have been put on court duty to maintain order outside if needed.

Winchester prison has denied claims by other inmates

that Mrs West is enjoying preferential treatment and that she has had her cell converted into a luxurious apartment complete with carpets, colour television and other electrical appliances.

The claim was made in a letter to a local evening newspaper, but Alan Stobart, the deputy governor, said: "This is absolute nonsense. She will have a bed, a table, chair and a locker and her room certainly isn't carpeted. There is a shower in the area but she doesn't have a tumble dryer or washing machine. Rosemary West will be treated the same as any other Category A prisoner."

Media, page 23

Immediate help forestalls trouble



Dr Thomas Stuttard

Western Front. When in his 80s he had recurrent nightmares. I asked if he was dreaming of the war. He assured me that he was not — his recurrent bad dreams were of falling his exams.

The effect of stress varies: it is not unreasonable for the BBC to fear that in some cases it might be allegations of a mother murdering her children. Post traumatic stress disorder is characterised by patients reliving the event in the imagination during the day, or in dreams by night. It

has other influences on the emotional life but the percentage who will suffer is much disputed, as is the mental state before the incident occurred.

There is no doubt people's tolerance to death and disaster varies enormously, but the length of time for which somebody is exposed to a stressful situation is important, as is the care they receive afterwards.

As well as reliving the experience, the patients can also become irritable, emo-

nationally detached, have mood swings from absurd jollity to maudlin tearful misery, restlessness, sleeplessness and even violent outbursts. Some may resort to alcohol or drugs.

Barry Luxton, principal counsellor at the Charter Nightingale Hospital in London, says that counselling not only alleviates the symptoms but may prevent future trouble by allowing people to vent their feelings in total confidence.

The essence of any treatment, in Mr Luxton's view, is to offer counselling at once so that tensions do not have time to build up to the point at which they cause symptoms later and become unmanageable. The trick, Mr Luxton believes, is to persuade the patient minutely to describe the situation and their emotions.

Boy found in pool is allowed to die

A severely brain-damaged boy, known only as Michael, died yesterday after Jersey's Royal Court allowed his medical treatment to be halted. The decision was made after the five-year-old boy's parents appealed for Michael, who was found at the bottom of a private swimming pool last month, to be allowed to die with dignity.

Giving judgment, Deputy Bailiff Francis Hamon said the ruling would allow the boy "to die more speedily than he might have done had we not taken the decision we did". Lawyers said that the Jersey case broke new ground, although it was a logical step forward from earlier rulings. Under present laws in Britain, treatment may be withdrawn only from a patient in a persistent vegetative state.

Benefit payback

Motorists and businesses face increased insurance premiums under plans put forward by Peter Lilley intended to save £100 million in welfare costs. The Social Security Secretary is preparing to force insurance companies to bear the full cost of reimbursing the state for benefits paid to victims of accidents and industrial disease. Companies said the proposals' costs would have to be passed on to customers in higher premiums.

Offer to students

The president of the American College in London offered places last night to students who claim they were misled into thinking that they were going to Oxford University. Joseph Houghton made the offer through The Times as trading standards officers began investigating Warborough College, Oxford. He said he was embarrassed by the college's American connection and would place as many students as possible.

Targets missed

Hospitals have failed to hit government targets on first outpatient appointments. Under new national standards, nine in ten patients referred to a specialist should be seen within 13 weeks. Data published by the Department of Health show that only 85 per cent were seen in that time, and even fewer in certain specialties. Patients referred to a plastic surgeon had to wait longest, with only 74 per cent seen in the target period.

Livestock picket

Animal welfare protesters wearing black armbands mounted a picket at the home of a livestock exporter in Framlingham, Suffolk, yesterday after the death of one of their members who collapsed at a public meeting with police.

Derek Day, 65, died on Monday during a meeting with John Burrow, Chief Constable of Essex, to discuss police tactics at the port of Brightlingsea in Essex.

Sperm danger

Men could be putting their children at risk of cancer by smoking, even before their partners become pregnant. A study at Birmingham University, using data gathered in the late 1970s, has shown that the more men smoke, the greater the chance that their children will suffer from cancer. No similar link was found for women smoking. The findings suggest that the damage is done to the father's sperm before conception.

Chessmen move

The historic Lewis Chessmen, one of which is pictured above, are to be returned to the British Museum in spite of calls from the Western Isles for the medieval pieces to stay on Lewis, where they were found 164 years ago, and where they have been on display. Western Isles Council has written to the British Museum calling for a permanent loan of the chessmen to the island. The museum says it will consider the request.

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Expansion 'could disrupt Bath's springs'

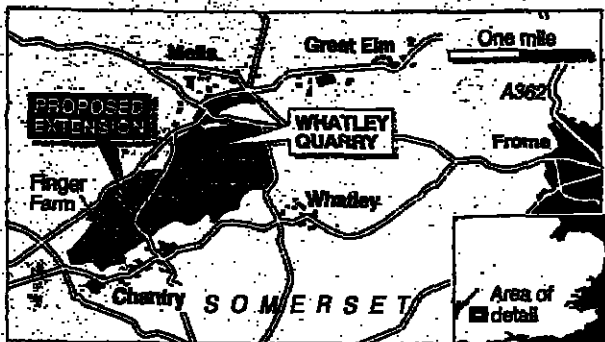
Villagers reject £500,000 offer to end quarry fight

By MICHAEL HORNBY

TWO villages in Somerset have rejected offers of about £250,000 each to withdraw their opposition to a quarry extension that would obliterate an ancient country lane.

In a battle seen as a conservation test case, the villagers are backed by Bath, ten miles to the north, which fears the proposed limestone diggings could reduce the flow and temperature of hot springs that feed the city's Roman baths and Pump Room. The hedge-lined lane, which runs for about a mile between Chantry and Mells to the west of the market town of Frome, would disappear under plans by ARC, a subsidiary of the Hanson group, to extend the existing 250-acre Whitley Quarry in the Mendip Hills.

Lady Violet Powell, who has lived in Chantry with her husband, the novelist Anthony Powell, for more than 40 years, is at the forefront of the campaign by local residents to block the development. Last



Friday night she was among 100 villagers who met in Chantry's early Victorian church and overwhelmingly rejected an offer by ARC to make a down-payment of £25,000 and further annual payments of £10,000, indexed for the next 20 years for the loss of the lane.

"Many people called the offer a 'bribe' and 'hush money', and frankly, it is difficult to see it as anything else," Lady Violet, who is a sister of the Earl of Longford, said. "Chantry has no village hall, pub, shop or post office of

its own, and the lane linking us to Mells is a lifeline."

David Rawlins, a retired doctor who chairs the Whitley Parish Council, which includes Chantry, said: "There are no more than 220 voters on our electoral roll, so a turnout of 100 was remarkable. Not a single person spoke in favour of accepting the money, even though it could have come in quite useful for church repairs and such like."

On Monday night 80 residents of the parish of Mells, which has 520 people on its electoral roll, rejected an identical offer, though the decision was less clear-cut with 29 voting against, 15 for and the rest abstaining.

Bryan Axford, chairman of the Mells council, said: "There were strong feelings on both sides. Opinion is more divided here because we are less dependent on the lane than Chantry and we are further away from the quarry."

Somerset County Council's environment committee is expected to approve ARC's planning application today despite the disquiet. The decision would have to be endorsed by John Gunner, the Environment Secretary. Any formal objection by either village would make a public inquiry mandatory.

ARC says the expansion of the quarry would enable it to raise rock output from five million tonnes a year to eight million by 2001, mainly for road-building. It would also extend the life of the quarry, which supports some 400 jobs directly or indirectly, for another 20 years.



Clemente Cavicoli leaving the inquest yesterday. He said he had not seen the cyclist on the path.

Coroner urges parks to limit skaters' routes

By LEYLA LINTON

A CORONER called for separate paths for skaters in parks and speed limits on cyclists after an inquest yesterday into the death of a cyclist in Hyde Park. Mark Welch, 26, died two days after suffering head injuries in the collision with Clemente Cavicoli, who had been wearing in-line roller skates.

Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster Coroner, is to urge the chief executive of the Royal Parks Agency to draw up a strategy to reconcile the conflicting interests of skaters, cyclists and pedestrians.

Mr Cavicoli, 32, told the inquest at Horseferry Road court, London, that he had just finished adjusting his boot and had been skating for only a few seconds when the accident happened. He thought that he had been on the pedestrian side of the path, and had not seen the cyclist.

Mr Cavicoli, a furniture agent, said he was spun round by the impact and thrown to the ground, injuring his arm. Mr Welch, a television researcher, was flown by heli-

copter to hospital where he died without regaining consciousness.

Recording a verdict of accidental death, Dr Knapman expressed concern that several months after the accident a policy on skating had still to be drawn up by the Royal Parks Agency. He told Viviane Robertson, head of policy at the agency: "I have the impression that you have meetings and meetings and then try to be nice to everybody."

Dr Knapman said: "Roller-bladers are trendsetters. I have referred to them as beautiful people who want to see and be seen. They have as much right to be accommodated as the nanny pushing her pram."

A royal parks spokesman said: "We will agree our policy urgently as the coroner recommends and implement it as soon as practicable."

A "no skating" sign went up in Regent's Park yesterday after complaints about high-speed skaters. St James's Park has had "no skating" signs for several weeks.

Woman accused of poisoning her daughters

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A WOMAN murdered one of her daughters and severely harmed two others during eight years of abuse which social services and the police failed to prevent, a court was told yesterday. Celia Beckett, 34, was having games of "play dead" with her youngest child when two others were already sharing a grave, Nottingham Crown Court was told.

Mrs Beckett denies murdering and poisoning her daughter, Tracey, four, causing grievous bodily harm to Clare, who died in 1991 at the age of seven, and poisoning, and cruelly to her third daughter, Debbie, now six, who has been adopted. Mrs Beckett, who is described as almost backward, was overheard by neighbours shouting at Debbie: "I wish you were where your sisters are," said Nigel Rumfitt, QC, for the prosecution.

Mr Rumfitt said it was a tragic history made sadder by the failures of the social services, welfare system and police inquiries. Mrs Beckett's first child was offered for adoption soon after birth. Tracey was born in July 1982 and, 21 months later, was taken to hospital with facial injuries caused by a blow from

her father. The child was put on the at-risk register, which is supposed to give her extra protection, Mr Rumfitt said.

Two months later, Mrs Beckett gave birth to Clare. When Clare was five months old she was taken to hospital where doctors were baffled by her devastating brain injuries.

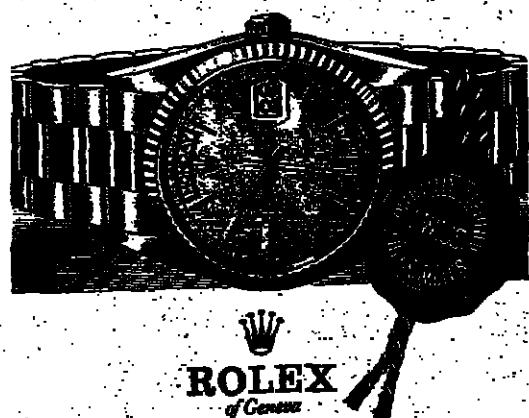
Overnight she became blind, epileptic, mentally handicapped and afflicted with cerebral palsy. Clare never recovered and died in 1991 in foster care.

In September 1986, when Tracey was four, she was taken to hospital and her mother said she had taken 23 anti-depressants, enough to kill her. Later that month neighbours heard screaming from the house in Newark and found Tracey dead on a bed. Her death was attributed to acute bronchitis.

Debbie was born in February 1989. When she was two she was taken to hospital after an overdose of tablets, which she survived.

Debbie has now been given a new home and a different name. In January 1994 her sisters' bodies were exhumed and traces of drugs were found in Tracey's body. The trial continues.

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Patriotic call to rebuild society 'broken by Tory rule'

Blair promises rebirth of a united, caring and prosperous nation

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

TONY BLAIR yesterday set out his vision of how a Labour government would transform an "old and tired" Britain into an affluent, secure and united nation. In a speech lasting just over an hour, the Labour leader appealed to delegates at the party conference in Brighton to help create a Labour government that would last for a generation.

The party had spent too long in Opposition, he said. "I have spent 10 years being angry, passionate and indignant about young people huddled in doorways, families made wretched by unemployment, the poor unable to make ends meet. I am fed up with anger. They don't need our anger, they need action. And they will not get it through the rage of Opposition but through a Labour Party that has had the courage to take hard choices, get into government and do something for them."

Mr Blair said his socialism was about a set of values for society and a moral purpose to life. "I know that for some of you New Labour has been painful. There is no greater pain to be endured in politics than the birth of a new idea. Socialism to me was never about nationalisation or the power of the State. It is a moral purpose to life, a set of values, a belief in society, in co-operation."

"It is how I try to live my life: the simple truths. I am worth no more than any other man, I am my brother's keeper. I will not walk by on the other side. We aren't simply people set in isolation from each other, face to face with eternity, but members of the same family, community, the same human race."

"This is my socialism. The irony of our long years in Opposition is that these values are shared by the vast majority of the British people."

Mr Blair said, however, that in the past Labour's politics and ideology had not reflected those values in a way that

LEADER'S SPEECH

brought them alive for the people. "We called them 'our people' while forgetting who they were."

He said that New Labour had begun with the help of the party's former leaders, Neil Kinnock and John Smith. "We have transformed our party. But I didn't come into politics to change the Labour Party. I came into politics to change the country. I honestly believe that if we had not changed, if we had not returned our party to its values, freed from the weight of outdated ideology, we could not change the country."

"We could not win and, even

had made. "There is a record of incompetence and dishonesty on an epic scale. Now they plead with the British people: trust us this one more time. I say this to the British people: there are two sides to a deal. They gave their word and you gave your vote. They broke their word and they don't ever deserve your vote again."

"Wasn't it good to see Eric Cantona back in action? Let's hope this time he remembers that kicking people in the teeth is the job of the Tory Government."

Mr Blair told the conference that the Conservatives would cut taxes before an election and raise them afterwards. "It's all a con. We all want ordinary hard-working families to pay less tax. But the

but its weight hangs heavy upon us. Why? Because for far too long it has left us defining ourselves as a nation not by what unites us but by what divides us: a class system unequal and antiquated, a social fabric tattered and torn, a politics where dogma drives out common sense."

If the country did not change course it would have two classes of health service, two classes of state schools and two Britains — one on welfare, another paying for it. "I want us to be a young country again," he said, "young with a common purpose, with ideals we cherish and live up to, not resting on past glories, not fighting old battles... where people succeed on the basis of what they give to their country rather than what they take from their country."

The new country would build a new economy for the future. "No more bosses versus workers, but partnership at work. No more public versus private finance. Co-operation to rebuild our nation's roads, rail, inner cities and regions. No more boom and bust economics."

Mr Blair said education was the best economic policy and that the future lay in the marriage of education and technology. "The arms race may be over; the knowledge race has begun. We will never compete on the basis of a low-wage, sweatshop economy. We have just one asset: our people, their intelligence and their potential. Develop it, we succeed. Neglect it, we fail. It is as simple as that."

Labour's challenge to build a young country was not just economic but social and moral. "Look at the wreckage of our broken society. See Britain through the eyes of our children. Are we really proud of society today? Drugs, violence, youngsters hanging around street corners with nothing to do. We have to have the courage to build a new civil



Tony Blair and his wife Cherie basking in the applause of delegates, who gave the party leader a six-minute ovation

‘I do not want a one-term Labour government that dazzles for a moment then ends in disillusion’

if we did, we would not have governed in the way Britain needs. For I do not want a one-term Labour government that dazzles for a moment then ends in disillusion. I want a Labour government that governs for a generation and changes Britain for the good."

Mr Blair called for the party to sweep away what he called the most discredited and dishonourable government in living memory. He attacked Tory MPs on the "chicken run" to find safe seats and accepted John Major's challenge to a television debate ahead of the next election. "Any place, any time," he said. "But I have a better idea. Instead of challenging us to a television debate, challenge us to a general election."

He said the Tories had broken every promise they

way to cut tax is to cut unemployment, cut crime, cut welfare spending, all the reasons taxes have gone up."

He said that if the Tories were re-elected there would be more VAT on fuel, more opt-out schools, more post offices sold off and more health privatisation. "Don't let them capture Britain's future, for they offer it nothing. This is a new age to be led by a new generation."

His generation had more freedom than any other but less certainty about how to exercise it responsibly. He described it as "the generation that knocks on the door of a new millennium, frightened for our future and unsure of our soul."

The people were living in a new age but in an old country. "We are proud of our history

society, a new social order, where everyone has a stake and everyone plays a part. Justice for all, responsibility from all."

Unemployment would not be solved overnight, the Labour leader said. "But no decent society can tolerate these levels of long-term unemployment with all the misery and social breakdown it brings."

Mr Blair said that in any young country, the talents of all were allowed to flourish. "There should be no discrimination on grounds of disability, gender, age, sexuality or race. In its place, tolerance and respect. And I say to the Tories: those who play politics with race or immigration betray the decent values of any civilised society."

He made a firm pledge to carry out in government the programme he provided in Labour's election manifesto. "Nothing more, nothing less. That is my word. We deliver what we promise. We don't promise what we can't deliver. It is not a vision worth fighting for?"

Delegates were urged to "feel new Britain come alive, feel the vitality that can course through this country's veins and make it young again. Rise, together, to the challenge."

But New Labour could not create new Britain alone, he said. "I challenge this country: let us rouse ourselves to a new moral purpose for our nation,

to build a new and young country that can lay aside the prejudices that have dominated our land for generations. A nation for all the people, built by all the people. Old divisions cast out. A new spirit in the nation. Working together. Unity. Solidarity. Partnership. One Britain."

"That is the patriotism for the future, where never again do we fight our politics by appealing to one section of our

election is not a struggle for political power, it is a battle for the soul of our nation."

The first Labour Party to win power, and the Labour of 1945 and 1964, had been "New Labour" because they had the "courage to take the values of the Labour Party and use them not for the world as it was, but for the world as they wanted it to be."

When he walked with Tony ministers down The Mall in

Blair said: "It's no good waving the fabric of our flag when you have spent 16 years tearing apart the fabric of our nation. They had 'torn apart' communities and people's security, he said."

The people who had shouted to Mr Blair in The Mall were "decent people, good people, patriotic people. When I hear people urging us to fight for 'our people', I tell you: these are our people. They are the majority. And we must serve them, and build that new Britain, that young country, for their children and their families."

Mr Blair promised that he would do all he could to get the Tories out. "I will devote every breath that I breathe, every sinew of my body, to ensuring that your grandchildren do get to live in that new Britain in a new and better world. Discipline. Courage. Determination. Honesty. The victory can be won."

"The prize is immense. It is new Britain, one Britain, the people united by shared values and shared aims. A Government governing for all the people. The party founded by the people, back, truly, as the people's party. New Labour. New Britain. The party renewed. The country reborn."

Delegates rewarded Mr Blair with a six-minute standing ovation.

Simon Jenkins, page 16
Leading article, page 17

‘The coming election is not a struggle for political power, it's a battle for the soul of our nation’

nation at the expense of another, where your child in distress is my child, your parent ill and in pain is my parent, your friend unemployed or helpless, my friend, and your neighbour my neighbour. That is the true patriotism of a nation, so that together we do make this the young country of my generation's dreams."

The Tories would say that it could not be done. They will lie about you. They will lie about me. They will lie about themselves. But do not let fear drive out hope. Be strong and of good courage. The coming

London during the VJ-Day commemorations, many of the thousands of people lining the route and waving Union Flags were Labour supporters, urging him: "Get the Tories out." Mr Blair said: "These are our people. They love this country, just as we do. It is because they love this country that they look to us to change it. So let us say with pride: we are patriots. This is the patriotic party, because it is the people's party."

To Tory supporters who would be waving the Union Flag at their party conference in Blackpool next week, Mr

Time traveller Tony rekindles the white heat of technology

Before Tony Blair's speech, a chap near me growled: "E thinks 'e's the dog's bollocks." Well he's entitled to. It was a commanding speech: a real dog's bollocks of an oration.

Echoing John F. Kennedy, Newt Gingrich and Jesus Christ, and interrupted by 13 minutes (in total) of mid-speech applause, the Labour leader came as close as a politician can to offering a glimpse of the Promised Land. We can identify six key elements to this: new Britain, new Labour, new technology, New Testament, new audience — and old Tony.

Before this week new Britain was a sun-drenched dependency in the Pacific. But as Blair himself said, picturing the future: "Virtual reality tourism allows you anywhere in the world." Thrilling to his picture of a classless, crime-free, brotherly, sisterly nation, delegates filed out into a grey sky and spitting wind. It spelt a Britain where we half-thought (though he never quite promised) there would be no more rain.

What, then, is new Labour?

Matthew Parris
POLITICAL SKETCH

Tony Blair has discovered what other Socialists have missed. That a Tory speech goes down well in Britain. He therefore gave one. There were even cries — non-ironic — of "hyah, hyah!" during his passage on law and order. But the British enjoy a frisson of modernism too. So with Mary Wilson sitting proudly behind him, Blair treated us to a 1990s rerun of Harold Wilson's 60s dream about the technological revolution. Few understood much of this but we knew it was terrifically important — probably for the young.

But there was something for older voters too. Blair offered the New Testament. Within moments he was quoting Christ. Near the end he declared (twice): "Be strong and of good courage." The tone was positively messianic. Mr Blair has yet to declare: "As God said and rightly..." but he will. "Discipline Cour-

age! Determination! Honesty!" Caught on a cusp somewhere between Florence Nightingale and Che Guevara, Mr Blair's peroration approached the phrasing they embroidered on to school caps. We loved it.

Commentators will say he is winning his audience round, but I think he is winning a new audience. There are missing faces this year and many unfamiliar ones. Politicians used to think that if the audience didn't like the message, you changed the message. Mr Blair has changed the audience.

So was it new Britain? Or the old Britain that Labour never noticed? New Labour? Or old Harold repolished? New Testament? Or old-time religion? Perhaps Professor Hawking is right: Blair has fused the funnels between black holes and is taking us time travelling. Old Tony

stays as fresh as each succeeding dawn.

On Tuesday this sketch suggested that like Dorian Gray, Tony Blair keeps a likeness somewhere, absorbing his sins and ageing for him. A friend has sent the quote from Wilde:

"Now wherever you go you charm the world. Will it always be so? ... You have a wonderfully beautiful face. Mr Gray, don't frown. You have. And Beauty is a form of genius — is higher, indeed, than Genius, because it needs no explanation. It has its divine right of sovereignty. It makes princes of those who have it. You smile? Ah! When you have lost you won't smile."

Yesterday Tony Blair made a beautiful speech and made it beautifully. It will not stand question but does not need to. As Wilde says: "Beauty is the wonder of wonders. It is only shallow people who do not judge by appearances." Yesterday Dorian Blair was the dog's bollocks.

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No one can still claim that this is a party short on policy

Tony Blair's first words yesterday were, appropriately, a tribute to Mary Wilson, who was sitting on the platform behind him. His subsequent speech had many echoes of Harold Wilson's "white heat of the technological revolution" conference address of 1963. As such, it inspired his party, and may go down well with the country. After last year's home truths, delegates had something to cheer about, even though, in retrospect, the Kennedyesque rhetoric about youth and patriotism may seem emptier than it sounded in the hall.

Mr Blair had several objectives: to show that his party is broadly

united and with him; that he has a vision of the future of Britain; that Labour has detailed policies; and that there is a real difference between the main parties. He succeeded, aided by the isolation of the far-Left so far in the conference. Yesterday was an important stage in the development of the Blair strategy — moving from the "new Labour" phase of internal party changes to the "new Britain" phase of explaining policy.

The former is vital since retaining the support of the party will be crucial to the success of Labour in office. Mr Blair is now able to get away with statements which would previously have provoked loud



dissent such as warning that, on public sector pay, a Labour government would "have to say no as well as yes, even to people in this hall". No one can now claim that Labour is short on policy. Admittedly, many pledges were familiar, though a conference speech is the ideal place to bring them together. Some are symbols of change — "flagship policies" in the jargon. Such symbols are important, but they are no substitute for a fully worked-out strategy. Labour has, for example, so far said little of

substance on the welfare state, apart from its proposals for a guaranteed minimum standard of living for pensioners. Otherwise, there are just references to the "need for reform" and "hard choices". But, as senior Shadow Cabinet members recognise, the welfare state will really be the key test of the party's fresh thinking and will determine a Labour government's ability to achieve a sustainable balance between spending and taxes.

In other places, Mr Blair relied on creative accounting. It is all very well to promise to hold down class sizes for five to seven-year-olds to less than 30 and

finance this by phasing out the assisted places scheme. But that is essentially a catchy one-off gimmick. It does not explain where the resources are to be found for other education aspirations on providing nursery places, guaranteeing literacy etc.

Similarly, it is nonsense to say you would spend the estimated £600 million cost of a nationwide identity card scheme on 3,000 extra police. This money does not exist in any public expenditure plans since there has been no government commitment to compulsory ID cards. The repeated pledge to a phased release of local authority capital receipts may be justified in

its own terms to boost housing construction and renovation, but it will automatically increase public spending and borrowing.

What matters more, as with Gordon Brown's speech on Monday, is the general impression that a Labour government has policies to make a difference to Britain. Mr Blair also repeatedly talked about "a new and young country", in implied contrast to the tired old Tories. Time for a change is Labour's most powerful appeal. It is linked with the theme of trust. Mr Blair skirted around an explicit reference to a contract, like Newt Gingrich's "Contract with America", or a guarantee, as the Liberal

Democrats have offered. His own version was to promise, in relation to the Labour manifesto, "nothing more, nothing less, that is my word. We deliver what we promise. We don't promise what we can't deliver." No matter that no government can ever deliver everything it has promised because of unexpected events. It is a persuasive image. Mr Blair may have given the Tories many loose ends to exploit. But his success yesterday has also increased the challenge to John Major to set out more of his own policy thinking in Blackpool next week.

PETER RIDDELL

Blair sets out his stall in conference speech

Cuts in class sizes pledged

By NICHOLAS WOOD
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SMALLER classes, children using the latest laptop computers and tough new measures to boost standards were promised yesterday by Tony Blair as he committed a future Labour government to forging a "knowledge Britain" in the 21st century.

"The arms race may be

over. The knowledge race has begun," the Labour leader declared. "Education is the best economic policy there is for a modern society. And it is in the marriage of education and technology that the future lies."

Mr Blair guaranteed that in infant schools every child would be taught in a class of fewer than 30 pupils. The measure should help more than a million children in England alone.

The pledge would require an extra 2,300 teachers and, after phasing in, would cost around £60 million a year. Labour would meet the bill by phasing out assisted places.

He also announced that David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, would be opening talks with education authorities and computer firms on ensuring that every child has access to a laptop computer. The intention was that the private sector would supply the hardware and the state would put extra money into teacher training.

Labour would be the champions of standards in the 21st century. Every school would get "fair and equal funding" and there would be "no return to selection, academic or social". Teachers and parents would get more support, but more would be expected of them. Bad teachers would be sacked and bad schools closed. Applicants for headships would have to prove their leadership skills. Nursery places would be provided for all three and four-year-olds and children would be tested on starting school at five.

Labour's BT deal aims to put Britain on superhighway

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

HOSPITALS, schools, colleges and libraries throughout the country will be connected free by BT to the information superhighway, Tony Blair announced yesterday.

The deal between Labour and BT is a milestone in Labour's drive to appeal to business and industry. The deal is likely to provoke controversy. It was approved by the BT board, of which Lord Tebbit, the former Conservative Party chairman, is a member.

In his speech at Brighton, Mr Blair said that after discussions BT had agreed that as it builds up its communications network of higher-grade cabling — the so-called "broadband" network — it would connect to it every single school, college, hospital and library in Britain at no charge. Such public institu-



tions, however, will still pay for using the new network.

Mr Blair said: "They [BT] get the chance to win new markets. But the nation gets the chance to succeed. That is new Labour — public and private, working together, building a dynamic economy."

BT envisages that hospitals will use networks to transfer large amounts of information, including even diagnoses from a distance. Schools are expected to be lower users, but will be able to access teaching aids to help pupils of differing ability. Colleges and libraries will use the free network links to go online with large numbers of databases worldwide.

Though the central BT network in large cities and between cities is already mainly

fibre cable, BT estimates it could cost as much as £15 billion to wire up all domestic, business and other users beyond that core.

BT is unwilling to undertake such a large investment without being sure of a market share that will give a sufficient return. The company claims that the Government's decision earlier this year not to allow it to develop a broadband network — which could carry broadcast services such as television and radio as well as telephone — before the year 2002 is a restriction on it. The Government wants to encourage cable companies to develop broadband services.

After the Government's decision, Labour leaders approached BT in the summer and began talks on a new regulatory framework, to be brought in under a Labour government, which would lift the broadband restrictions.

Mr Blair said: "We should aim for free and fair competition and end the restrictions that have prevented BT, Mercury and others from playing their full part in wiring up Britain." He said eventually Labour would wire every home in Britain to be wired to the new communication networks.

Sir Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, who will travel to the conference in Brighton tomorrow for talks with Mr Blair, said last night: "We strongly believe we can make a tremendous contribution to improving the delivery of public services and in particular health and education in the United Kingdom."

Tony Young, joint general secretary of the CWU communications union and one of Mr Blair's key union supporters, said the move placed the information superhighway at the centre of the political agenda: "BT's commitment to connect every school, hospital and library for free is great news indeed. This is the kind of partnership Tony Blair wants to see. Britain can once again be at the forefront of the technological revolution."



Liz Davies after the acrimonious debate on her rejection as a Labour candidate

Delegates support NEC on rejection of Davies

By JILL SHERMAN
AND JAMES LANDALE

CLARE SHORT was jeered and heckled by the Left yesterday as she defended the decision to bar Liz Davies as a parliamentary candidate. But delegates voted convincingly to back the National Executive Committee's refusal to endorse Ms Davies as a candidate for Leeds North East.

Ms Davies, a left-wing Islington councillor, left the conference hall close to tears after a brief, acrimonious debate where her supporters condemned the "intoler-

ance" to the Left shown by the Labour leadership. She said later: "Never before has a candidate been denied endorsement merely because of her political views."

Ms Short, a member of the NEC and once regarded as a champion of the Left, was booed and slow-clapped as she declared that left-wing extremism within the party could endanger its chances of victory at the next election. She made it clear that Ms Davies had been rejected for her politics.

"We need candidates who respect party democracy and help to carry through and

explain difficult decisions," she said. "On the basis of her views and record, it is impossible for the NEC to endorse Liz Davies."

The Labour Left suffered another blow yesterday when Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, failed to win support for his attempt to save Clause Four commitment to nationalisation. He later said that he was considering leaving the party. "Maybe it is the end of the affair in the sense that the party today voted to break any link with socialist commitment," he said.

Currency union 'depends on jobs growth'

By NICHOLAS WOOD

UNEMPLOYMENT would have to drop sharply throughout the European Union before Labour signed up to a single currency, Robin Cook declared yesterday.

The Shadow Foreign Secretary was given a rapturous reception for his strongly pro-European rhetoric in which he derided the Tories' obsession with the past and portrayed Labour as the agent of constructive change in the EU, prepared to co-operate with fellow countries.

But Mr Cook also stiffened Labour's conditions for embarking on economic and monetary union, making it highly unlikely that a Labour government could meet the 1999 Maastricht deadline.

"Labour's condition for a single currency is convergence of economic performance in the real world in growth, output and jobs," Mr Cook said. "Jobs will be the bottom line in our judgment on whether to recommend to the British people that they join up to a single currency."

Echoing Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, Mr Cook delighted the conference by underlining his commitment to full employment and said that Labour wanted such a pledge written into the Maastricht Treaty when it was revised next year.

In a debate highlighting Labour's conversion to the European ideal, a succession of speakers insisted that the country's future lay with the EU while demanding action to help Europe's 17.5 million jobless, reform of the common agricultural policy and greater openness and democracy.

Austin Mitchell, MP for Great Grimsby, was heard almost in silence as he struck the only Euro-sceptic note in the debate, warning his party that a currency union was the path to economic ruin and the destruction of its hopes of getting people back to work. Labour's policy on Europe was escapism because it ignored the reality of the Maastricht Treaty and its proposals for a community "for bankers to rule in".

But the conference gave Mr Cook a standing ovation after he claimed that the Conservatives were paralysed by their divisions over Europe and that only Labour had a clear agenda for change. He said that when Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, set out his personal credo on foreign affairs, he quoted seven people — all of them dead. "Labour wants Britain to be part of the Europe of the future, not the Europe of the past." Mr Cook received his biggest cheer when he promised that a Labour government would give "the people of Britain the same rights at work as people throughout Europe" by signing the social chapter.

£600m to strengthen police

PROPOSALS for an extra 3,000 police on the beat were put forward yesterday by Tony Blair as part of a renewed effort to tackle crime (Nicholas Wood writes).

One possible source of the £600 million cost would be cancellation of plans being studied by ministers for compulsory identity cards. Mr Blair said that law and order was a Labour issue, not least because the poor and the vulnerable suffered most from crime. He promised a nation-



wide crime prevention programme in which councils would be under a legal duty to consult the police, residents, schools and firms about how to tackle local problems.

Mr Blair listed his measures: "Reform of the criminal justice system; a comprehensive programme to deal with juvenile offending; action to tackle drug abuse; proper treatment of victims and wit-

nesses; tougher penalties on violence or guns; a crackdown on those who make life hell in their local neighbourhoods through noise or disturbance. But the truth is that the best two crime prevention policies are a job and a stable family."

Labour intends to educate children on the dangers of drugs. It also plans to promote access to rehabilitation and detoxification facilities, try to get guns off the streets and crack down on drug dealers and smugglers.

Back-to-work help for lone parents

By JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSALS to get a million lone parents off benefit and into work, plus sweeping changes to state pensions, were announced by Tony Blair yesterday. He made clear that a Labour government would provide a range of incentives to cut the £85 billion social security bill by getting more people into jobs.

The party intends to adapt a scheme for lone parents oper-



ating in Australia. Under the Jobs, Education and Training (JET) programme, single mothers are given free child care and advice on education and training services.

Under Labour's plan, lone parents would be encouraged to work with the employment service to develop a Career Development Plan, taking into account skills, child care needs and interests, to help

obtain jobs. Labour would also change benefit rules which now discourage lone parents from earning more than £15 a week.

Single parents would no longer be "the butt of Tory propaganda," Mr Blair said.

He also proposed radical reforms of the state pension system to take into account private and occupational provision. Labour would take 15 million pensioners out of means tested benefit by giving them a minimum guaranteed

pension. "Universal pensions... must remain the foundation of pension provision. But we can't cure pensioner poverty simply through the state pension," he said.

The Labour leader also announced that Labour would set up regional centres of medical excellence which would, over time, be connected via the information superhighway to cottage hospitals and GPs' surgeries so that diagnosis by experts could be backed up by local care.

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Another world's fastest chip H-P claims its PA-8000 will outperform others

It's a title that seems to shift on a monthly basis, but Hewlett-Packard Co. announced a chip design Monday that it says deserves the title of the world's fastest microprocessor.

Shortages hit 486 suppliers

A worldwide shortage of 486 chips is starting to make life difficult for system vendors as Intel shifts semiconductor production in favor of Pentium chips.

H-P lifts curtain on 64-bit chip, keeps mum on Intel project

Determined not to lose mind share in the processor game, Hewlett-Packard Co. last week provided a glimpse of its 64-bit PA-RISC 8000 architecture, which is set to be sold a year from delivery.

At the same time, officials at HP and Intel Corp. all but denied a wire service news report that said the results of the two companies' collaborative microprocessor development would be announced in 1997.

That report was based on

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Larry Inman, HP's

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IBM, Motorola show off PowerPC 620 prototype; volume shipment expected in '95

IBM and Motorola are announcing the PowerPC 620 this week, the most advanced implementation of the PowerPC architecture to date.

As part of the announcement, the two companies introduced the first 620 prototype, with sample shipments to follow in the second quarter of 1995.

Volume production

second half

instruction set computing. H-P's workstations

have been controlling 72.7 per-

cent of systems analyst

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Over-oriented rewrite of the

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IBM big iron revamps bode well for 95; Client/server OS, 64-bit architecture await AS/400

IBM has spent the past few years trying to answer questions about the ice in a client/server world. In instant got it right. Over-oriented rewrite of the ing system is supposed to be mark following a

eagerly awaiting the coming makeover

IBM reiterates PowerPC commitment

IBM is expected to ship its long-awaited PowerPC desktop systems in June, but with a beta version of OS/2 for PowerPC. Lee Kessing, general manager of the Research Software Products division, said at an analyst conference in Orlando.

HP set to launch PA-8000 chip; systems not expected until 1996

ard Co. plans to announce its next

Precision Architecture microproces-

or on March 6.

Expected to achieve a rating

of 100 and greater than 550

performance numbers are

the processor's main pro-

duct with the product line.

It's a significant design

change, said a source.

HP's new chip will be a

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IBM, Motorola To Announce 64-bit PowerPC

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which has a SPECint92 rating of 330.

HE Sun's biggest rival is shipping a PA-7150

processor that has a SPECint92 rating of 135 and

next month will introduce the PA-7200,

which is expected to have a SPECint92 rating

of about 150.

comparing the two processors, the performance gap is

not as wide as it once was.

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of about 150.

comparing the two processors, the performance gap is

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HE Sun's biggest rival is shipping a PA-7150

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of about 150.

INTEL-HEWLETT-PACKARD ALLIANCE SEEN RALLYING A 64-BIT MICROPROCESSOR STANDARDS EFFORT

There are scant details of how Hewlett-Packard Co.

plans to introduce technology developed under its

alliance with

Intel Corp. acknowledged

last week that the P7 will be

the first chip to come out of

the alliance — formed with

per second (see "Pentium now

VLW" Jan. 30, page 1).

The basic concept of the

VLW is to have the core

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IT'S NICE TO SEE IBM AND HP FIGHTING OVER WHO WILL BE NUMBER 2.

In fact, it's downright heartwarming. Digital, of course, beat both of them to 64-bit computing long ago. And while neither one has a 64-bit machine to sell you,

we're now on our second generation of 64-bit Alpha-based workstations and

servers. Machines that offer price/performance leadership at every level. For example, our new AlphaStation™ 250

system is half the price of the comparably performing HP workstation.*

While our new AlphaServer™ 8200 and 8400 systems are the first

and only servers capable of running the newest 64-bit database products — letting your

application directly address up to 14GB of data in main memory, and giving you

performance gains of up to one hundred times over 32-bit enterprise

systems. Alpha-based systems run thousands of applications — including

the ones you need most. And, thanks to the enormous capacity and scalability of 64-bit architecture, they'll

work with your present equipment, and grow almost limitlessly as your

business grows. Sure, it's possible that HP or IBM really will have 64-bit

machines, eventually. But even when they start offering real-world 64-bit

products, it'll still be years before they'll have been as thoroughly tested and

digital™ evolved as ours are right now. So why wait? Whatever your business, whatever your budget, you can

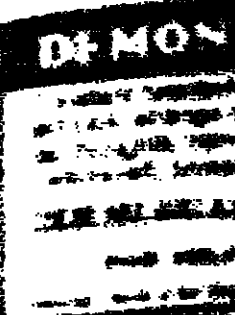
do what thousands of companies all over the world have done — and what IBM and HP have

been unable to do — have a 64-bit computer you can call your own. For more information, contact your Digital

business associate. Or call us on 0800 320 300. Or reach us via our Internet address: moreinfo@digital.com.

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Censure wider
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Advertising watchdog says lottery's drain on fundraising is driving pressure groups to mislead

Needy charities accused of resorting to sensationalism

BY ALEXANDRA FRIAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

COMPETITION from the National Lottery was blamed yesterday for "overzealous" and misleading advertising by charities that are struggling to attract donations.

The Advertising Standards Authority said that some charities, which had complained about a decline in income since the launch of the lottery, had felt the need "to develop creative and eye-catching advertisements in order to survive". A few, however, had overstepped the line between "presenting a distressing but accurate picture of their cause and misinforming people".

The authority singled out the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and the International Fund for Animal Welfare for "exaggerating and stretching the truth".

Greenpeace was condemned for claiming in a newspaper advertisement that

DEMON POSSESSION?

Constant headaches, depression, insomnia, fears, bad luck, strange diseases, hearing of voices, suicidal thoughts, nervousness, panic attacks, victim of witchcraft, broken relationships, nightmares, etc

THERE ARE JUST A FEW SYMPTOMS CAUSED BY DEMONS

FOR HELP: 0171-286 1502

Universal Church of the Kingdom of God - Christian Ministry - No fees charged

This advertisement for exorcism was banned because of fears that it could exploit "vulnerable people"

"the same chemicals we dump into our seas are causing willies to shrink in size". The advert, in *The Guardian*, was headlined "You're not half the man your father was", and reproduced part of a fresco showing a man's abdomen.

Greenpeace provided the authority with research that said chemicals were suspected to be the main cause of an increase in testicular cancer and urethral abnormalities, and of a reduction in sperm counts; but the ASA ruled that there was no conclusive link. It

rejected other complaints, however, about the "gratuitous" display of nudity.

The authority upheld several complaints from the public and the timber industry about a cinema advertisement for Friends of the Earth. It showed a toilet with a mahogany seat overflowing with blood, and the voice-over said: "It costs a lot to have a toilet seat made from the Earth's last mahogany trees. Mahogany furniture costs blood."

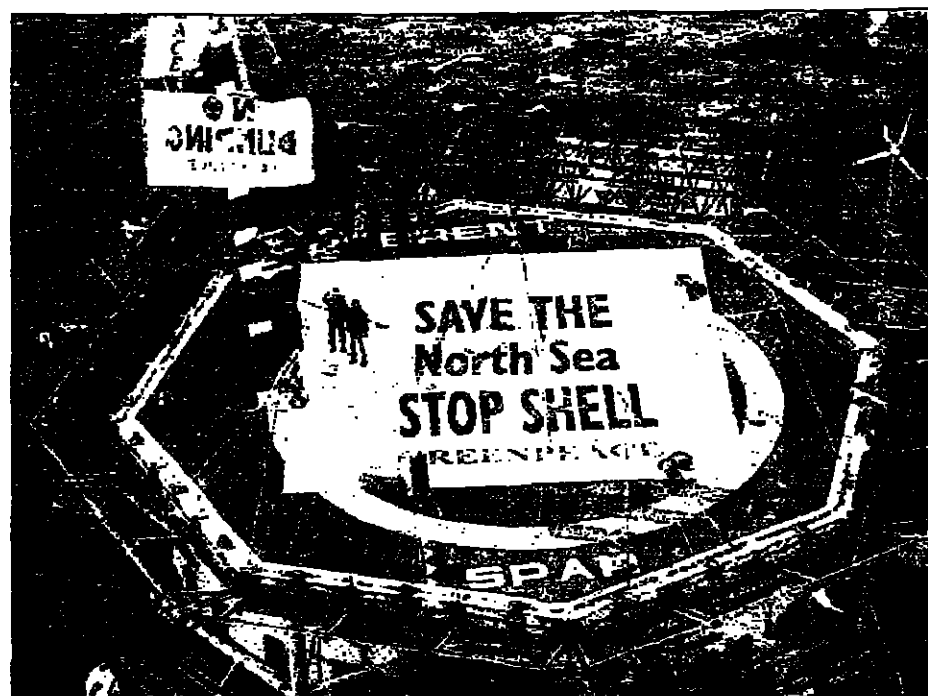
The authority banned the advertisement because several

of the factual claims, including that the harvesting of mahogany trees had led to the widespread murder of Brazilian Indians, could not be substantiated.

Charles Secrett, executive director of Friends of the Earth, said the authority had been given voluminous evidence to support the advertisement. "We can back up our facts... we will continue to object to this ruling until the ASA admit they are wrong."

The authority upheld complaints, including one from the British Field Sports Society, about four national press advertisements for the International Fund for Animal Welfare which appeared to compare those who did not support the Wild Mammals (Protection) Bill to the serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer. The irrelevance of the comparison and the heinous nature of Dahmer's crimes made the advertisements shocking and offensive, the authority ruled.

Also banned was an NSPCC cinema advertisement showing



A Greenpeace campaign helped to stop the dumping of the Brent Spar oil platform but a claim about chemicals damaging male health was rejected

an unborn baby in the womb reacting to a violent argument between its parents. It ended with the words: "How many thousands of children grow up to wish they had never been born?" The authority said that the NSPCC could not prove that a fetus could be emotionally disturbed by hostility around it, and the

distress that the advert could cause, particularly to pregnant women, was unjustified. The authority said that sensationalism could be counterproductive: "It can do damage to the image of the charity and to the advertising industry if claims and statistics used cannot stand up to scrutiny."

A magazine advertisement

for exorcism was also banned. The Universal Church of the Kingdom of God said headaches, depression, insomnia and the break-up of relationships could be symptoms of demons and claimed its pastors could cure "possession". The ASA said that the advertisement could exploit "vulnerable people".

THE RULINGS

■ Claim. Greenpeace said: "It's true. Scientists have shown that the same chemicals that we dump into our seas are causing willies to shrink in size." Fact. Scientists are linking thousands of man-made chemicals with a range of sexual abnormalities and diseases including penis size. But researchers have yet to prove this.

■ Claim. Friends of the Earth implied that there was widespread slaughter of native Indians by loggers harvesting Brazilian mahogany for Britain. Fact. The wood is endangered and that it only comes from Brazil.

Fact. Murder is not widespread, the wood is not officially listed as endangered and it comes from numerous sources.

■ Claim. The International Fund for Animal Welfare claimed hunts destroy 5,000 surplus foxhounds annually using the slogan: "You know they kill foxes. Guess what they do to foxhounds?" Fact. The figure is speculative and the fund could not prove it to the ASA.

Censure widens Greenpeace credibility gap

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE Advertising Standards Authority's ruling marks a further dent in Greenpeace's credibility as a scientifically sound organisation after its admission that estimates on the amount of oil in the Brent Spar were flawed.

There is certainly growing alarm among researchers that thousands of man-made chemicals, from detergents to transformer fluids, are behind the sharp drop in sperm counts and an increase in cases of sex organ diseases.

The implication that scientists have proved that man-made chemicals are causing impotence in men may seem mild enough. Unfortunately, the discredited advertisement follows a growing tally of scientifically dubious claims made by Greenpeace in the name of saving the planet.

In 1994 its knuckles were rapped by the ASA over an advertisement showing a child with a swollen head. The group linked the distressing image with Soviet nuclear tests. The truth is that water on the brain, the condition the child had, cannot be caused by exposure to radiation.

Other notable cases in which Greenpeace's science, used to support dire warnings, has proved flawed include the *Braer* oil tanker disaster off the Shetlands. Greenpeace said that the pollution would

cause widespread damage to the marine environment. It did not.

The fine line over which Greenpeace keeps straying was brought into sharp focus during the battle with Shell over Brent Spar. The company, the Government and a series of oceanographers had always insisted that deep-sea disposal was the safest option and that the quantity of pollutants on board were negligible. But the Greenpeace "science", based on a hasty dipping of the Spar's tanks, was believed by the public, which rejected the official version. The campaign prompted the oil company's eleventh-hour decision to abandon deep-sea disposal.

Greenpeace argues that the world does not have time to wait for mainstream scientists. By the time researchers have fully proved (or disproved) the link between chemicals and damage to sexual organs, it may be too late.

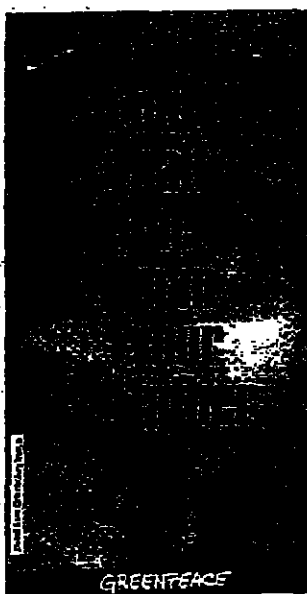
Greenpeace is also keen to portray itself as the David fighting the Goliath of vested industry and politicians in a dirty war. Greenpeace is no longer a David: it is a Goliath in its own right, able to force one of the world's biggest oil companies into a humiliating U-turn.

Groups such as Greenpeace play a key role in bringing vital issues to the fore and adding to public debate. However, for the environmentalists to turn to science to support their aims is only laudable if they subject themselves to the same scientific strictures used by independent research institutes.

Unless the group keeps within the bounds of scientific fact, it runs the risk of devolving its cause and exposing itself to the kind of public cynicism reserved for politicians and corporations.

The media, generally friendly to its stunts, is also feeling manipulated and may choose to ignore Greenpeace's battles.

Friends of the Earth, also in the ASA dock yesterday, should take note. It has just appointed Uta Bellini, formerly of Greenpeace, as campaigns director. This traditionally milder and more modest group copies the publicity machine of its bigger cousin at its peril.



The advertisement that went too far

Nuclear protesters invade press briefing

BY A STAFF REPORTER

POLICE were called in yesterday when environmental activists invaded a news conference to protest at a consignment of weapons-grade nuclear fuel being shipped to Britain for reprocessing.

More than 30 protesters — including members of Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, Scotland and Calthness against Nuclear Dumping — burst into the Caledonian Hotel in Inverness as officials from the Dounreay nuclear reprocessing plant were announcing a £17.5 million decommissioning package.

Environmental pressure groups have been campaigning against the shipment of 52 spent nuclear fuel rods which

arrived at Dounreay, Highland, from Germany on Monday night. Activists say the shipment clears the way for thousands of American weapons-grade fuel rods to be sent to Dounreay for reprocessing.

A small band of protesters met the two lorries carrying the German shipment when the vessel transporting them across the North Sea docked at Scrabster harbour.

Police maintained a high profile as the lorries drove to Dounreay and one demonstrator was arrested. Dounreay officials said the spent fuel would be reprocessed early next year but they rejected Greenpeace claims that the operation posed a serious risk to the environment.

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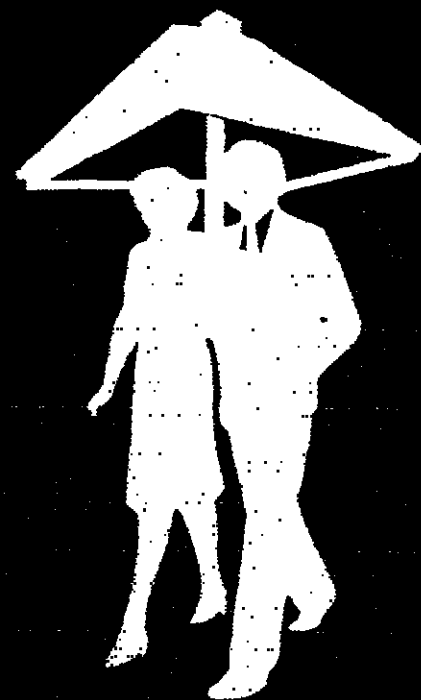
Our standard variable mortgage rate of 7.99% 8.3% APR, together with a contribution of up to £820 towards your legal and valuation fees, are just two of the ways we can help make your new home more affordable.

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Howard tells police to back the victim in 'have a go' cases

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Correspondent

SENIOR police officers should use common sense when deciding whether to charge people who use force to defend their homes and families against criminals, Michael Howard said yesterday.

The Home Secretary said there was public unease about the way the criminal justice system dealt with such 'have-a-go' cases. He said it would be better if officers consulted the Crown Prosecution Service before acting and revealed that the Government had asked Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, to look at 'the kind of circumstances in which a prosecution is really necessary'.

He told the national conference of the Police Superintendents' Association in Market Bosworth, Leicestershire, that greater sensitivity was needed. "It is in the interests of no one — not the police, not the Crown Prosecution Service and certainly not the public — for criminal proceedings to be started against those who have done no more than was

reasonable to defend themselves, their families and their property."

He did not advocate action by vigilantes or the public taking the law into their own hands. But the people who were the real victims of a crime were caused needless worry by having to wait weeks to discover if action was to be taken against them.

There were cases where the violence used was excessive and prosecution was justified, but Mr Howard said he suspected they were few and far between. His call comes after a series of cases that have caused public concern. Last month Francesco Gargano, a car dealer from southwest London, was cleared of assault after stabbing a burglar.

Earlier in the year Ted Newbury, an old age pensioner, was cleared after shooting a burglar at his allotment shed and in June 1993 the Attorney-General decided not to prosecute Tony Evans, 66, who shot a burglar in the knees during a struggle at his home in Pluckley, Kent. In a speech

which will find support among Tory party supporters preparing for next week's party conference, Mr Howard also questioned whether courts were being tough enough on criminals. He said there was still public dismay over sentencing and he was surprised that only 10 per cent of first-time burglars went to jail.

The average sentence for all first offenders was 3.7 months and only four months for those with ten or more previous convictions. The upper limit was six months but offenders could be sent to crown courts for longer sentences to be imposed. The average term for a jailed first-time burglar was 14 months and for those with ten or more previous convictions it was 17.6 months.

Replying to calls for new powers to deal with convicted paedophiles, Mr Howard added that he would seriously consider requiring them to register with police and banning them from life from any work with children.



Alan Borg inspecting the sculpture gallery at the Victoria & Albert Museum where he started work this week as director. Dr Borg, former director general of the Imperial War Museum, takes over from Elizabeth Esteve-Coll

Woman crushed in bag snatch

A woman was crushed under a van after the passenger leant out of the window and tried to steal her bag. The 77-year-old victim tried to hold on to the bag and fell under the back wheels as the van sped off.

The woman, from Wibsey, Bradford, was in a stable condition in hospital yesterday with serious leg and pelvic injuries. Detective Inspector Michael Field said: "It seems she did put up a struggle, which led to the horrible consequences."

Rapist's penalty

Sylvester Semper, 33, who was jailed for eight years for raping a woman at knife-point, had his sentence increased to life imprisonment yesterday by the Court of Appeal after three judges held that the sentence was "unduly lenient".

Public eyes

Edinburgh District Council is to use private detectives to investigate complaints against residents on housing estates where witnesses are too frightened to testify because of fear of reprisals. Similar schemes operate in Sunderland and Motherwell.

Three charged

Three men from Irlam, Greater Manchester, were charged with the manslaughter of Paul Nixon, 35, a Crystal Palace fan who died in April before an FA Cup semi-final in Birmingham. They were among ten accused of violent disorder.

Power of nature

An area once chosen to be the site of an atomic power station has been given the status of a national nature reserve. The site of more than 700 acres at Newtown, Isle of Wight, was taken over by the National Trust 30 years ago after the atomic plan failed.

A time to learn

Staff at a primary school in Northampton have been given free alarm clocks. Staff appealed to local companies to pay for 250 clocks for the new intake of 11-year-olds.

Fishermen saved

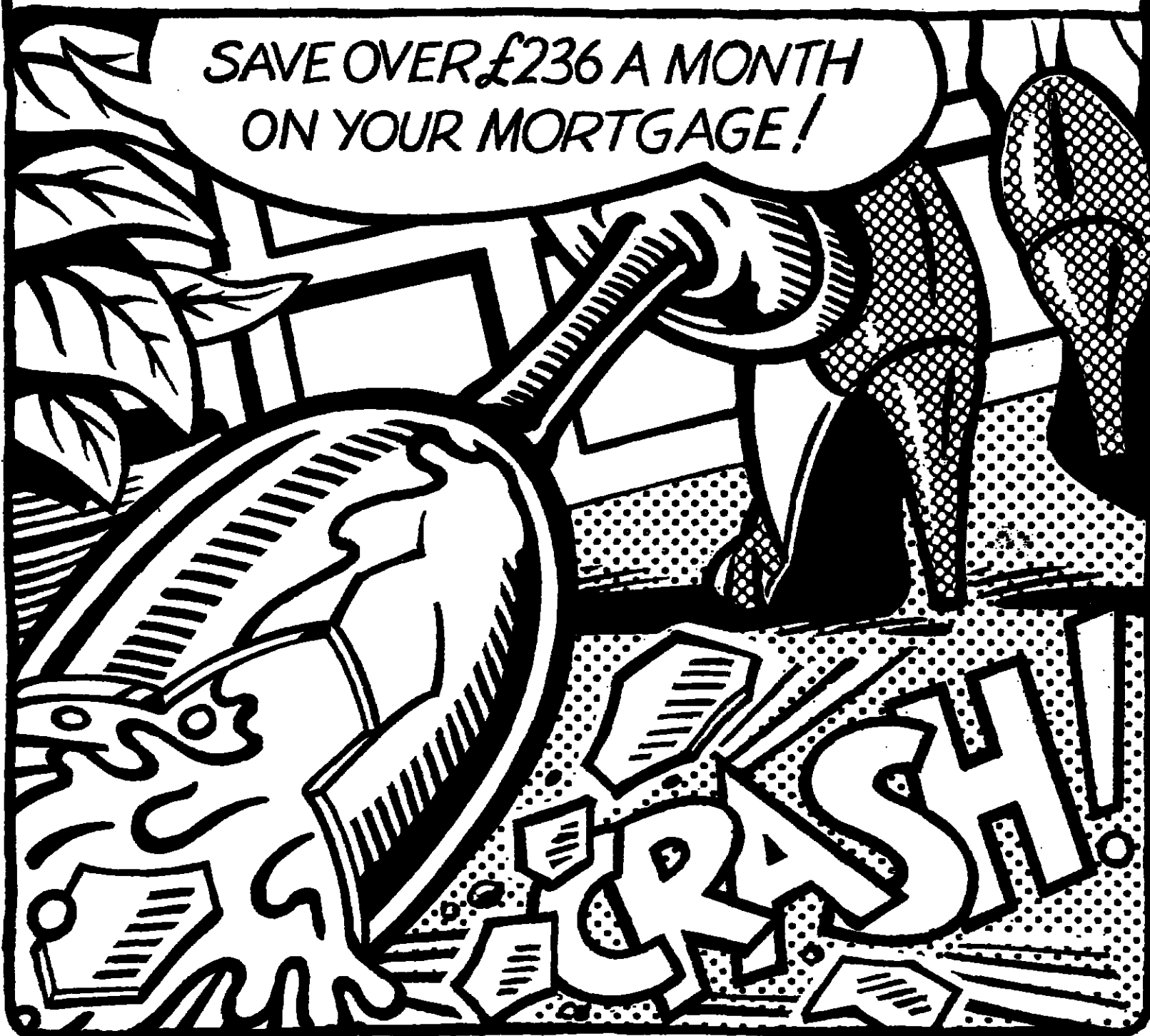
Three fishermen were rescued after their boat sank in the Irish Sea. Two helicopters and two lifeboats were scrambled when the *Irene Chalmer* began taking its water about seven miles off Blackpool. The men were treated for hypothermia.

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SUSAN DROPPED THE LOT WHEN SHE HEARD THE NEWS...

SAVE OVER £236 A MONTH ON YOUR MORTGAGE!



Susan enjoyed a glass of wine after a hard day at the office. She was a Nationwide borrower and had been thinking about moving house when she heard the news. "Nationwide have lowered their standard variable rate to 7.95% APR 8.3% (variable) and are rewarding their existing customers with a special preferential discount rate" came a voice from

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Min. Deposit	Discounted Rate in year 1	APR (variable)
25%	2.45%	2.5%
15%	2.95%	3.0%
5%	3.45%	3.6%

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2.5%
APR
(variable)

Savings quoted are based on endowment mortgages. Above example assumes existing borrowers take a variable rate of 2.45% after a 5.00% discount off our standard variable rate of 7.95% APR 8.3% (variable). A couple (male and female, non-smokers, aged 25 applying for a £50,000 endowment mortgage over 25 years on a purchase price of £135,000) example assumes a deposit of 40%. Monthly payments £105.16 net of MERAS at 11% APR 12.5% (variable). APRs are based on 1 year discounts applying for the term of the mortgage. In practice, after the discount rate period, the Society's standard variable interest rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAIP) £10,526. 3rd mortgage and endowment mortgages are subject to a 10% increase in the discount rate. A typical monthly endowment premium is £1. (variable). Payments must be made by Direct Debit or Postscript transfer for the term of the discount. Each redemption fee is charged and the cashback must be repaid if you decide to repay your mortgage or transfer to another offer during the first five years, and not take out another Nationwide standard variable rate mortgage for the same amount. This can be calculated by multiplying the number of years at 10% discount rate by the discount rate. In the example of 10 years, the 10% discount rate of 12.5% has been returned the discount rate by a multiplier of 10.5% for the above example. Mortgages are subject to status and security over your home and collateral security. Available in over 18 vols. For loans exceeding 75% an additional charge will be made. Nationwide Building Society is a registered Supervised Institution of the Financial Services Authority, which is a Member of the Lenders and Lenders' Association (LAA) for the purposes of advising on and selling life insurance, personal, asset and personal pension products. Banking Services are provided by Nationwide Building Society. There are some fees for various legal, regulatory and customer service requirements your call will be recorded. Written quotations are available from Nationwide Building Society, Nationwide House, Peters Way, Swindon SN1 1YB. Nationwide is a member of the Building Societies Ombudsman scheme, and subscribes to the Code of Banking Practice.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

her transistor radio. Oh my..." Susan cried "...that means when I move home I'll save up to £236 a month, get a £500 cashback and a free valuation." Susan cleared up the spillage and poured herself some fine Champagne — this was definitely a day to remember. She'd visit a Nationwide branch tomorrow or call free on 0800 30 20 10, quoting ref. PU55

InterCity attacked over £10 minimum

By Jonathan Prynn

MANAGERS on the East Coast main railway line have been criticised for imposing a £10 minimum charge for tickets bought by credit card over the telephone.

The move, which comes into effect on Monday, will mean the price of a standard single between Grantham and Peterborough, which currently costs £6.40, increasing by 56 per cent if bought by credit card. A £7.10 day return between London and Newcastle upon Tyne will rise by 40 per cent.

Ronnie Campbell, Labour MP for Blyth Valley, said: "This is another terrible example of the poor customer being exploited by the big money men. I know of lots of people who travel on a regional basis and need to book tickets in advance over the phone."

A spokesman for InterCity East Coast, which operates services between London King's Cross and Edinburgh and has been electrified at a cost of £500 million, said it was uneconomic for telephone sales clerks to process credit card bookings of less than £10.

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هاتف امت الاصل

Pledge to save Aviemore's serenity

Property tycoon buys Scottish resort for £7.5m

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

ONE of Britain's most colourful entrepreneurs has bought the Cairngorms ski resort of Aviemore for £7.5 million. Desmond Bloom, 49, who was once bodyguard to Screaming Lord Sutch, and who tried to make his name as a pop star, is planning a multimillion-pound redevelopment of the Highland holiday village.

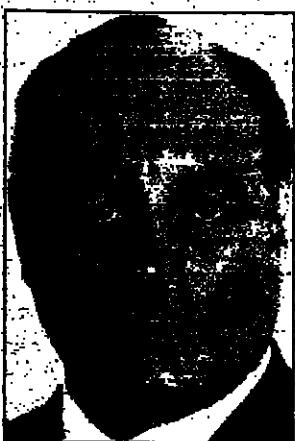
Mr Bloom, who is chairman of Premier Land, played guitar in the 1960s with the bands The Heartbeats and The Druids. He has bought the ski resort from De Vee Investments. Yesterday he said: "I fell in love with the place the moment I saw it. I realised its enormous potential and wanted it for my company. I am extremely proud to have secured the sale."

"Aviemore is in a beautiful location and its remoteness is part of its magical appeal. I am confident that we can develop that to attract visitors from throughout the world."

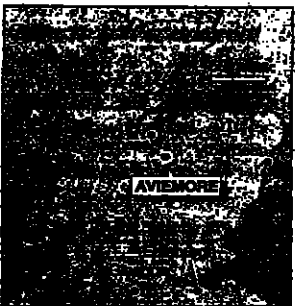
Mr Bloom, a multimillionaire, is planning to build a swimming pool and fitness centre, 71 new holiday chalets, a high-tech museum of Scottish history and to convert the existing 700-seat cinema to a two-screen complex. Much of the £16 million development will be funded by grant aid, he said.

The acquisition covers more than 100 acres and includes four hotels, a conference centre and theatre, children's theme park and an ice rink. The resort was built in the 1960s by the House of Fraser group. The late Lord Fraser wanted to turn it into the St Moritz of the Highlands and Aviemore quickly became an internationally popular year-round resort for skiers.

But in recent years there has been little investment and locals say Aviemore has be-



Bloom: he fell in love with Highland resort



Aviemore: the resort is to be redeveloped

come run down. They are sceptical about Mr Bloom's plans and say they have heard similar ideas from previous owners.

Mr Bloom is the latest in a line of colourful landlords who have been seduced by the beauty and remoteness of the Highlands. He was born in Whitechapel and brought up in Ilford, east London. When he left school at 15 with no qualifications, his report said: "This boy will never go anywhere."

When he failed to find stardom with rock bands, he became a driver and minder for Screaming Lord Sutch, who had formed a band. He then went into property development. In 1984 he invested in a small Irish textile com-

pany called Dwyer to take his interests public. Dwyer's shares rocketed but later slumped and Mr Bloom, who had a Bentley and a salary in excess of £250,000, stepped down as chairman before taking over Premier Land.

The acquisition of Aviemore increases the value of Premier Land's property portfolio to about £100 million. It is the company's first diversification into leisure activities. Discussions have already taken place with the Highland Regional Council, the Scottish Tourist Board and the Scottish Office over development funds.

If successful in securing grant assistance, Premier Land hopes to market the resort as a venue for sporting events and an ideal location for filming.

Business and community leaders expressed doubts about the plans yesterday. Ian Malcolm, chairman of Aviemore Community Council, said: "Like most people in Aviemore, I'll believe it when I see it. We've seen too many big plans fall through."

Ian Turner, of Aviemore Chamber of Commerce, said: "We have been listening to this kind of thing for over ten years and we have not seen anything happen yet."

But Nicol Manson, chairman of the Highland Tourist Board, said: "It is widely recognised that the resort needs upgrading and a project of this magnitude needs funding from local authorities and other bodies. Premier Land has a very good case, and I wish them well."

Mr Bloom said: "If anyone can make a go of Aviemore, I can. I'm not some high-handed landlord coming up from the South of England. We have quite a bit of property already in Scotland and I am not going to do anything which would destroy the beauty of the Cairngorms."



John Mortimer with Sir Michael's daughter Joanna. The writer said: "Something wonderful has gone."

Stars fish for memories of Hordern

FRIENDS of Sir Michael Hordern gave him their highest tribute yesterday: he would rather have been out fishing than hearing what they were all saying about him.

Stars arrived in force for a memorial service at the actors' church, St Paul's in Covent Garden, central London. Although his career spanned a range from *King Lear* to the voice of Paddington Bear, most of the speeches recalled his passion for angling.

John Mortimer, author of *Rumpole of the Bailey*, said: "You would far rather be up to your waders in some trout stream."

Sir Michael died earlier this year in hospital in Oxford. Yesterday's service — held on what would have been his 84th birthday — was arranged by his long-time woman friend, Patricia England, and his daughter by his late wife Eve, Joanna Curzon. Miss



Patricia England yesterday and right, her long-time friend Sir Michael: "The life that I have is yours"

England was close to tears as she read one of their favourite poems, *Code Poem for French Resistance*, which begins: "The life that I have is all that I have, and the life that I have is yours."

Michael Williams, Dame

Judi Dench, Timothy West, Tom Stoppard and Richard Briers all gave readings, mostly about fish. The congregation was reminded of Sir Michael's excitement, recorded in his diary of Wednesday, June 12, 1935, the day he

caught his first salmon on the River Dart.

During the Second World War, he saw distinguished service with the Royal Navy. In his acting career he was proud of having no formal training, as he told young hopefuls who wrote asking for help. He once said: "Some are born to act, some are not. I regret not learning fencing, which may affect one's *Hamlet*, but that's about it."

John Mortimer, who wrote his first play, *Dock Brief*, 40 years ago, with Hordern as the lead, said: "Something great and wonderful has gone from our world."

Frank Middlemass recalled them playing in so many versions of *King Lear*. Hordern had remarked that they were turning into a double act like the Crazy Gang team Nervo and Knox. Asked which one he would be, Hordern replied: "Nervo, it's better billing."

The three youths, their clothes still drenched in blood, gatecrashed a party near by and boasted about what they had done. Codona was arrested next day. Gordon Jackson, QC, defending, said she had been pressured for hours by two policemen into admitting that she had kicked Mr Doran "once on the foot". She had consistently denied doing anything else.

Girl, 14, gets life for gay murder

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

A GIRL of 14 was jailed for life yesterday for the brutal murder of a homosexual man. She was part of a gang that had attacked two other gay men on the same evening. Two teenage boys and a 20-year-old man were also sentenced to life for the murder.

Claire Codona, a pupil at Shawlands Academy in Glasgow, had denied the murder of Michael Doran, 35, from Govanhill, Glasgow. When she was found guilty at the High Court in Glasgow, Lord Morrison, the trial judge, said it was in the public interest that she be named.

As she was led away, Codona's mother screamed from the public gallery: "No, no. She never done it."

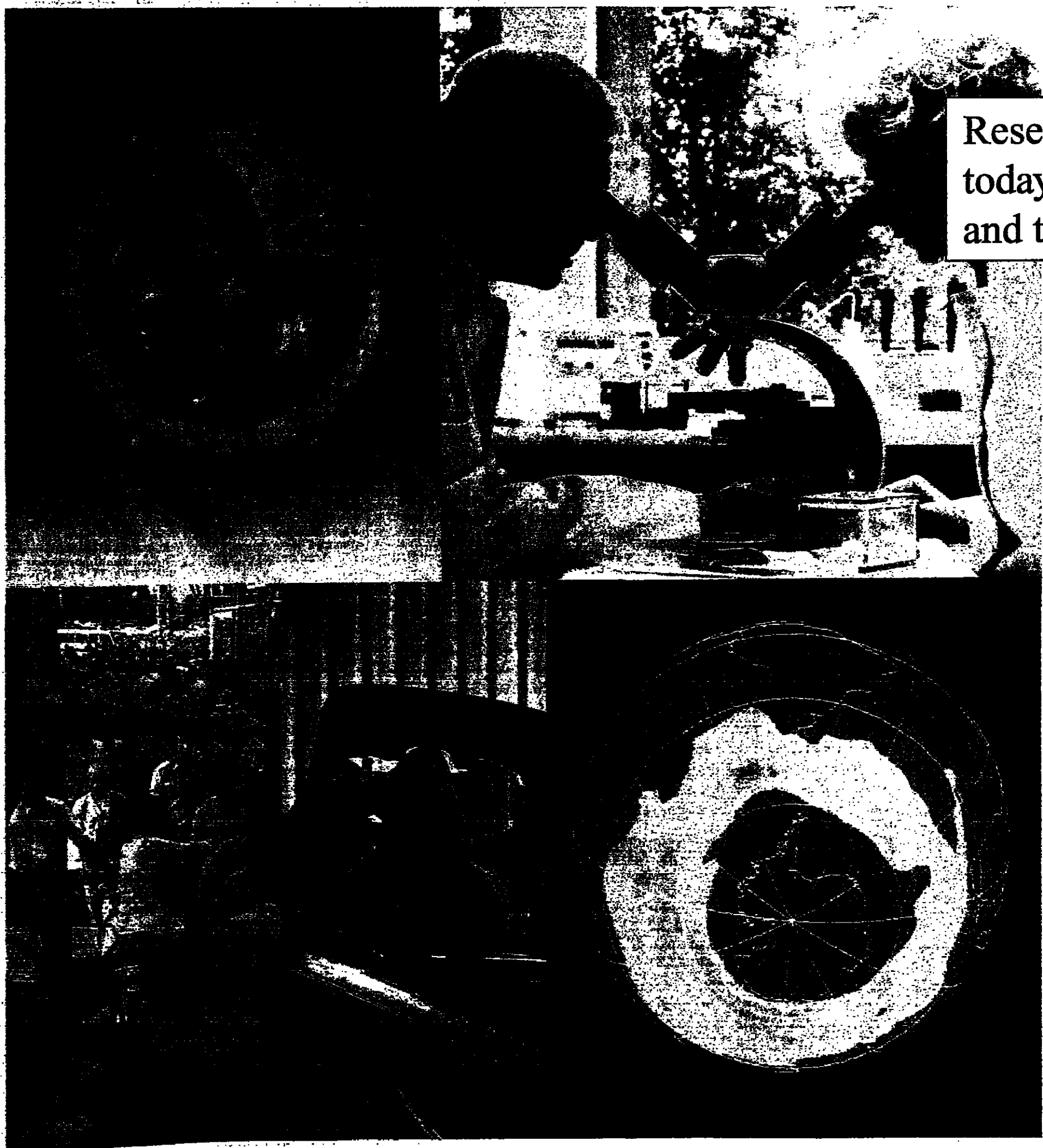
Codona's co-accused, her boyfriend John Cairns, 18, who had also pleaded not guilty, and Richard Bell, 20, and Richard Ferguson, 16, who changed their pleas to guilty midway through the trial, were all sentenced to life.

The murder happened on June 2 in Queen's Park, Glasgow. Colin Boyd, QC, for the prosecution, said the gang had homed in "like predatory animals" on three men.

Two escaped, having been kicked, punched, threatened with a knife and robbed. Then the gang ambushed Mr Doran, described by his family as a quiet, gentle man.

He was stabbed repeatedly in the groin, and his face and head were stamped on. Two policemen found him and he was taken to hospital, where he was found to have severe brain damage and died shortly afterwards. Every bone in his skull was broken.

The three youths, their clothes still drenched in blood, gatecrashed a party near by and boasted about what they had done. Codona was arrested next day. Gordon Jackson, QC, defending, said she had been pressured for hours by two policemen into admitting that she had kicked Mr Doran "once on the foot". She had consistently denied doing anything else.



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Focus of the Cold War becomes a hive of enterprise in recapturing historic role as capital

Berlin digs deep to reconstruct a sense of purpose

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BERLIN

BERLIN, five years after unification, is in a state of upheaval. There is the perpetual thud of pneumatic drills as workers rebuild the no man's land between East and West. Soon there will be no more fashionable office site than on the former Death Strip.

The Oberbaum bridge is taking the changes very calmly. For five decades, the city of bridges became a city of sudden cul-de-sacs. Bridges across the River Spree and the canals were blocked with concrete, or became border crossings like Glienicke, the scene of East-West exchanges between spies and dissidents.

During the Cold War, the main East-West traffic over Oberbaum bridge was pensioners, free to visit relatives and return. Klara Mandelbaum, a walnut-faced 63-year-



old, was one of them, and she can barely grasp that the bridge is nothing nowadays but an ordinary river crossing. Since last November, the Oberbaum, suitably restored, has again been opened for normal traffic. There is now a physical link between the western district of Kreuzberg

and the eastern Friedrichshain. The psychological upheaval in these two districts is becoming evident. Kreuzberg was on the eastern periphery of the divided city, surrounded on three sides by the Berlin Wall. The moribund middle class had no wish to live there. Tenant buildings were allowed to crumble and were bought up cheaply by speculators who rented out to the poor: to Turkish and Kurdish families, to punks and to students. You went to Kreuzberg for the jazz clubs or the Turkish restaurants, but there was always the feeling that you were on the cusp of the Western world.

The wall is down, the bridge is working and suddenly traffic is streaming through the district which is no longer on the margins. Ten years ago,



With the fall of communism and the graffiti-covered Berlin Wall dividing the city, the Brandenburg Gate is bustling with traffic



the traffic lights did not function or did not exist; Anatolian teenagers in clapped-out second-hand cars would race down the broad empty streets.

Now schoolchildren are being knocked down by lorries crisscrossing Berlin as they take the quickest route from Eastern Europe into the city centre. There are other changes too: neon-lit nightclubs glitter until dawn and

gentrified restaurants employ doormen to park the Porsches.

Old photographs show the Oberbaum and the Glienicke bridges to have been lively places. The Oberbaum was built in 1896 for an international exhibition at Treptow Park upstream. An electric railway took Berliners across the river. Ships from the nearby eastern harbour chugged under the bridge,

while trams and horsedrawn taxis ran over it.

Today, Berlin is trying to recreate this sense of movement and industry. On the eastern side of the bridge, in Friedrichshain, this is already apparent. The Cold War crippled the district — houses had to be pulled down to clear the line of fire for border guards. Now there are offices, warehouses, a few bars; every-

where a sense of movement.

Berlin is discovering new economic possibilities that are actually not new at all, but rather rooted in the almost forgotten pre-war era. Memories merge in a way specific only to Berlin. The other day, three of us — an engineer, a local amateur historian and myself — walked along the waterfront near the Oberbaum. The engineer came to a

set of steps and pointed out a makeshift cross: "A young defector was shot there in 1959, the year the wall came down," he said. "Those were the steps that people used to board the imperial yacht."

Somewhat, Berlin has to hang on to and transcend these memories as it rediscovers the corners of the once and future German capital.

Youths on rampage

Düsseldorf: Political, administrative and religious figures, including Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, marked the fifth anniversary of German unification with a solemn ceremony in this northwestern city yesterday amid a heavy police presence to keep resentful young troublemakers at bay.

The ceremonies began with an ecumenical religious service and continued with speeches that acknowledged the still-unfinished state of the

country's unification, as some 3,000 police stood by on alert. In the early hours of the national holiday, youths smashed the windows of a department store and a bank and threw paving stones at police who arrived on the scene, but no injuries were reported.

In the formal ceremony, key speakers addressed the problem of achieving social unity between east and west Germans. (AFP)

Norway fights for its role in defence

FROM MICHAEL BENVENISTE IN OSLO

NORWAY is seeking an alliance with Britain to stop Brussels taking over the Western European Union, a situation that would leave the founding Nato member out in the cold, when European Union members take common defence decisions.

Bjorn Møller, Norway's Foreign Minister, flies to London for talks tomorrow with Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and will urge him to speak forcefully at the coming Inter-Governmental Conference against EU absorption of the WEU.

Norway, which voted against EU membership in a referendum last year, fears this new move could exclude it from a broader European dialogue with America. "We could be faced with the strange situation where we have to ask Washington what is going on in the European pillar of Nato," Mr Møller said in an interview yesterday.

Norway shared the worries of non-EU Nato members — Iceland and Turkey — that any attempt to turn the WEU into the EU's defence arm would weaken it as the European pillar of Nato. The only alternative, as proposed by the Dutch, was to let Norway take part in EU council meetings on defence. After the hotly contested referendum, such a move would be extremely divisive in Norway.

Norway is also a vigorous supporter of British attempts to prevent any federalist initiative at next year's JGC. Mr Godal, admitting he wanted a different referendum outcome, said Norway must realise it would have less influence in the EU than Denmark, Sweden and Finland.

It has, nevertheless, moved swiftly in the past year to ensure it is not isolated. It has set up its own IGC committee to monitor EU preparations; increased co-operation with Nordic neighbours to solicit early warning of EU proposals; taken measures, to be completed in the budget period, to meet the criteria for Economic and Monetary Union; and demanded early on that Brussels agree to the minimum consultation laid down by its membership of the European Economic Area.

Economically, Norway, with its huge oil resources, suffers almost no setback from its "no" vote. But it needs a new role and has found one as the Nordic bridge between America, the EU and Russia, replacing Finland — underlined by Mr Godal's talks today with Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian Foreign Minister.

Falklands oilfields on offer

London: More than 44,000 square miles of potentially oil-rich seabed in the territorial waters round the Falkland Islands went on offer to international oil companies yesterday (Michael Dwyer writes).

With the British Geological Survey predicting similarities to the North Sea, Falkland Islanders are anticipating huge finds. About 80 oil conglomerates have expressed interest.

After last month's joint declaration between Britain and Argentina, discoveries of oil or gas will have no implications for Falkland Islands sovereignty.

French plea for Pacific dialogue

Paris: France called for dialogue with South Pacific nations after the region's 16-nation forum suspended ties with Paris over the resumption of nuclear testing in French Polynesia. Jacques Rummelhardt, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, said that France was waiting for more information on the South Pacific Forum move, saying: "We want dialogue with all the countries in the region."

Leading article, page 17

Village buried in mudslide

Cabalanian: Flooding bodies and thousands of houses with only their roofs showing were about all that was left of this Philippines village of 15,000 people yesterday after it vanished in a mountain of mud.

Fifty people died and 100 were missing after tropical storm Sityl struck at the weekend, causing floods, landslides and mudflows in the region. (Reuters)

200 die in Tamil guerrilla battle

Colombo: At least 200 people were killed as Sri Lankan troops and Tamil Tiger rebels fought on the Jaffna peninsula for a third day, the Sri Lankan Army said. Another 45 Tigers and soldiers were killed in a failed rebel attack off the east coast. Rebel radio reported that 50,000 residents were homeless. (Reuters)

Coup foiled

Freetown: Troops loyal to Sierra Leone's military Government foiled a coup attempt by officers opposed to plans to end military rule. Six officers were arrested and two lieutenants were on the run. (Reuters)

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I'D HAVE

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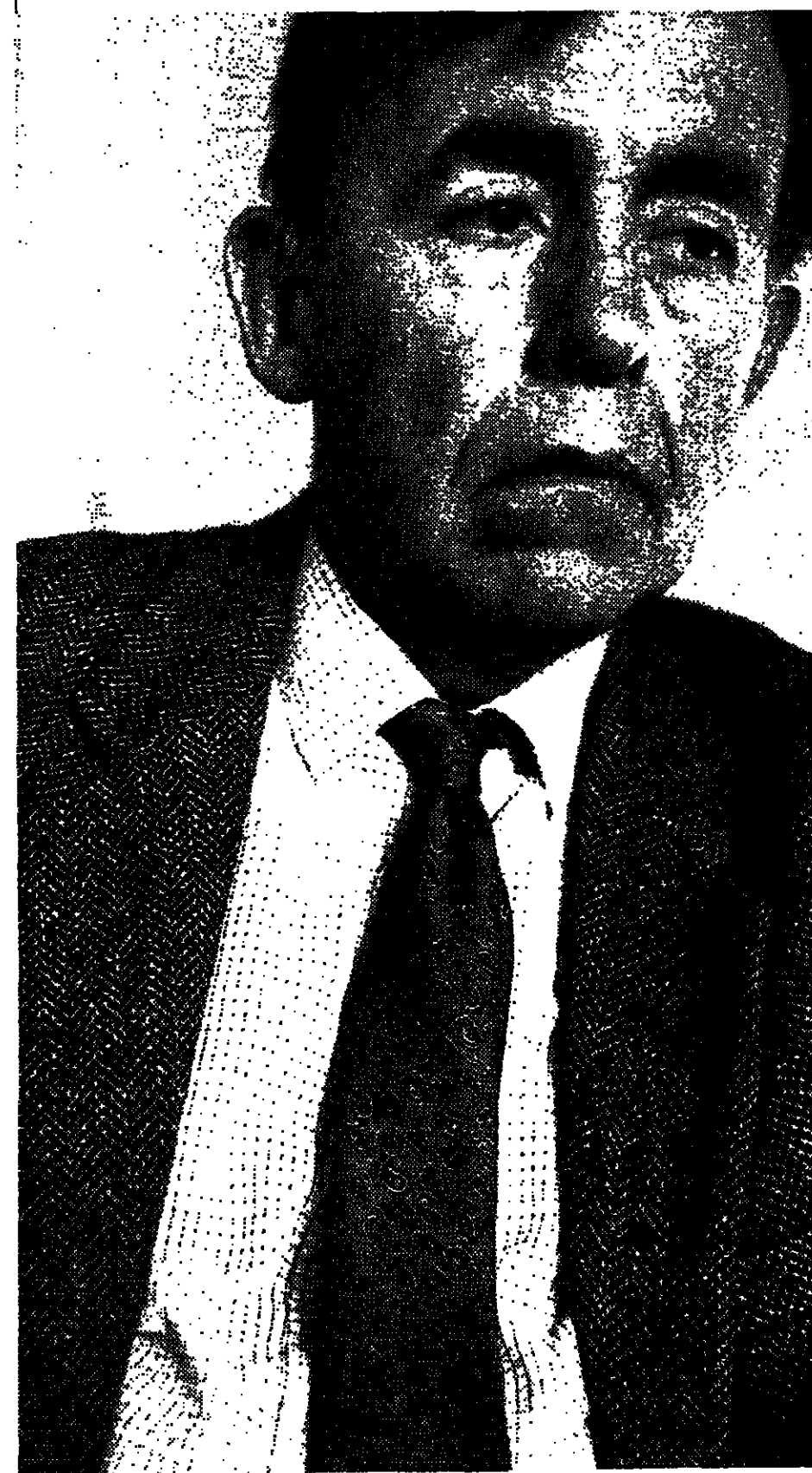
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'One comrade had prepared a grenade in case one of us should be too badly hurt to go on'

Flight of terror as ruthless Serbs trap the Tigers

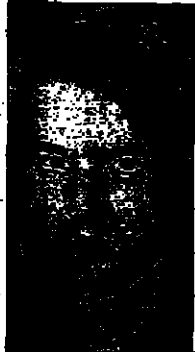
I HAVE never seen such fear in the eyes of soldiers; never felt so powerless beneath its weight. The front has disintegrated. The Serbs are upon us. The brigade is collapsing. We are under attack on three sides. The air is striking with flying metal and whizzing shot. We panic and flee.

There are 600 yards of open ground to the nearest treeline, and it is being raked with anti-aircraft fire. Speed is our only hope and in our fear we throw down whatever equipment we can. Even a flak jacket is ditched in the grass. 25lbs of body armour is little use against the shells exploding around us.

I know the rules of this battlefield. I know what happened to the Croats who surrendered in Vukovar and to the Muslims who gave up in Srebrenica. They are dead, and I do not believe for a moment that a press card will save me from a shallow grave. My fear turns to dread at the thought of the captors' mutilating knives. I envy the soldiers running beside me for their pistols. One of my three comrades has prepared a grenade in case one of us should be too badly wounded to go on.

An elite Bosnian brigade had pushed forward along a narrow 12-mile-long salient and been ordered to turn the Serb flank. But the troops were exhausted. They had been fighting for three weeks, advancing on foot over more than 60 miles of mountainous terrain. Their commanders had insisted that they launch a further offensive, but the decision had led to catastrophe. And with hindsight, it was all so obvious.

On the evening of the previous day, accompanied by three other journalists, I had moved to the brigade's forward headquarters. We had been invited by the commander, a man known as the Tiger. Before the war he had been a nightclub owner, but in the 3½ years since he had pulled off a string of



Anthony Loyd, a former Green Jackets officer, and a special correspondent for The Times, was with advancing Bosnian forces when they were routed by a surprise Serb counter-attack near the village of Vrh Polje, eight miles south of Sanski Most

dazzling operations, using initiative seldom encouraged by the Sarajevo command. But now he, too, was exhausted and the night's orders were filled with a sense of foreboding.

After a fireside meal of roast veal, each commander gave similar situation reports. "Our men are exhausted," they said. "Our artillery munitions need to be replenished."

The soldiers' faces were deeply lined and hollow-eyed. Even the arrival of "Juta's Babies", a unit made up of some of the youngest men, did little to dispel the air of fatigue, usually garrulous and wild-

It has been a good life and I accept that I am ready to die. But I don't stop running

they also stood silently before their commander. We moved forward under cover of darkness, leaving our armoured Land Rover at the base of the salient. It was the last we saw of our equipment; within 12 hours everything was in Serb hands. We continued on foot through lines of advancing troops, their silhouettes illuminated by the weight of darkness. In the morning, a special unit of Bosnian Tiger troops broke through the Serb lines before us, and the valley echoed with gunfire. Almost immediately, the Serbs were

launching their own attack, driving a strong force through the lines behind us. Desperate voices crackled over radios requesting reinforcements and, in a bid to stem the Serb incursion, the Bosnian offensive halted almost as soon as it had begun, as the troops redeployed to face the new Serb threat. The Tiger troops, alone and deep in Serb lines, withdrew hurriedly, returning to our hamlet carrying the body of their commander, killed by a single bullet.

The situation deteriorates rapidly. Units of second-rate reservists holding the rear lines, also break and run beneath Serb fire. Isolated and far forward, the sound of incoming artillery and gunfire grows louder, creeping closer. A Serb Galeb jet flies bombing runs above, sending its payload into the hillside beyond. Nato, embarrassed by the influence on battlefield events

of its previous actions, seems to have given up policing the United Nations "no-fly" zones. Around us the expressions of the Bosnian troops become pensive, their laughter replaced by lengthy silences. Everyone is chain-smoking and listening intently to the radio. But the Serbs have intercepted their frequencies and the desperate pleas of Bosnian commanders calling for fresh troops are broken by Serb voices, swearing.

The brigade commander leaves us, taking with him a group of Tiger troops to respond to a particular crisis nearby. He does not return, and the doom-laden atmosphere intensifies. As a fresh battle erupts on the crestline above the hamlet, a soldier runs in, telling us that the line around us is broken, that the unit between us and the Serbs has run. Fear overtakes us like a sudden fever. My heart is about to pump itself out of my chest cavity, and my brain is emptying of rational thought. My only urge is to run.

The troops panic and try to escape without a thought of their duties as a unit. The command structure is turned on its head, and if there is one man there to whom I owe my life, it is a junior commander called Maja. While a battalion commander stands besides him in shocked dumbness, Maja halts and reorganises a terrified group.

There is one vehicle, already overloaded with ammunition and mortars; as it tries to pull away, a young Tiger soldier implores its crew to take the body of his commander, a cousin. They refuse. "Fine," he tells them quietly, tapping his grenade launcher. "Go now if you want without him, and I will kill you all with this."



A Bosnian Serb watches a Muslim tank burn near Vucja Luka in central Bosnia. The vehicle was abandoned during a Bosnian Serb assault

They load the body on to the vehicle and spin away down a track.

We begin our escape, spurred on by a burst of anti-aircraft fire from the Serbs who are now at the edge of the hamlet. The rounds crack through a tree beside us. There is no possible cover, no alternative but to run for our lives. I cannot see how we shall not be mown down by the fire around us.

I am in terror of being hit in the legs and left behind. I trust the soldier beside me to give me his pistol if I am wounded and can go no further. I think of my mother and sister, of a group of close friends, of people that I have loved and who have loved me.

Some stillness comes to me. It has been a good life and I accept that I am ready to die. But I don't stop running.

In the trees I am surprised to find myself alive. We gather our breath, sprawling occasionally on the ground as shells whine overhead. Although in cover at last, we are still about ten miles from the Bosnian lines that are holding firm, and the Serbs are closing in. Our thoughts begin to gel.

We are together again; four journalists and 14 Bosnian soldiers. What happened to the others, I do not know. Across the plain, artillery is ripping into the ground around the route taken by most of the fleeing group. I thank God that we stayed with Maja.

For four hours we move through an empty landscape of deserted hamlets, dead livestock, and fallen crucifixes, growing more confident in the silence around us. We begin to laugh a little, but are afraid to relax too much. Our panic may have gone, but our position is far from enviable.

We reach Bosnian lines in the darkness. Fresh soldiers are arriving, and Bosnian officers are turning their re-treating troops back into the hills to face the Serbs. The rout has stopped. The line is being re-established; the Serb advance contained.

Some wounded soldiers stand quietly beside a bridge waiting for evacuation, smoking and whispering among themselves. Nearby the Tiger soldier whose cousin is dead starts to cry silently beside a river.

Sarajevo guns defy UN and open fire

FROM STACY SULLIVAN IN SARAJEVO

THE Bosnian Army began firing at Bosnian Serb gun positions from Sarajevo yesterday in overt violation of orders from the United Nations. The action could undermine the forced truce around the Bosnian capital and stall the American-led Balkan peace initiative.

In response to the government attacks, the Bosnian Serbs requested UN permission to move their heavy weapons back into the 12½-mile exclusion zone around Sarajevo. Denying the request, the UN issued a stern protest to the Bosnian Government, calling its attack "outrageous".

The Bosnian Serbs reluctantly moved out most of their heavy guns last month after more than two weeks of Nato air raids. At the time, the UN instructed the Bosnian Government not to launch any attacks from the capital. But

yesterday the UN said that government forces fired all day long from four points in a planned and co-ordinated attack on Serb positions outside the exclusion zone near Trnovo, south of Sarajevo.

The government action comes as Richard Holbrooke, the American envoy to the former Yugoslavia, is trying to negotiate a cessation of hostilities around the Bosnian capital. UN officials said the Bosnian move was potentially explosive, because if the Bosnian Serbs move back their heavy artillery and besiege the capital, there would be "no will to stop them".

In Zagreb, the UN said it uncovered evidence that Croatian soldiers had massacred nine elderly Serb men and women last Thursday in the village of Varivode, 13 miles southwest of Knin — territory the Croats captured in August.

Kremlin chiefs meet amid growing tension

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin of Russia and Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, held their first meeting in weeks yesterday amid speculation that strains in the relationship could lead to Mr Chernomyrdin's dismissal or resignation.

For the past week, the Russian media and political sources have been predicting a showdown in a power struggle that has gone on for most of the summer.

At the heart of the dispute is whether Mr Yeltsin should seek re-election next year or make way for the assertive Mr Chernomyrdin, regarded by many as his natural successor. During his three-week holiday

in the Black Sea resort of Sochi, Mr Yeltsin twice scheduled and then cancelled meetings with Mr Chernomyrdin, although he held regular contacts with just about every other senior minister. Yeltsin reportedly yesterday that President Yeltsin was considering either sacking the Prime Minister or sending him on "extended leave". On top of the holiday rebuff and some unflattering comments by Mr Yeltsin, Mr Chernomyrdin now appears to have a serious challenger for his job in Yuri Skokov, a hardline nationalist and former head of the Presidential Security Council.

Macedonia leader survives car bomb attack by militants

BY JAMES PETTIFER

PRESIDENT GLIGOROV of Macedonia survived a car bomb attack yesterday that killed his driver and seriously injured three bystanders in central Skopje.

Doctors at the capital's main hospital said that Mr Gligorov, 78, suffered head injuries but was conscious and able to talk while being treated. But diplomatic reports said he was critically injured.

The attempted assassination is likely to mark a new phase in the struggle for the former Yugoslav republic. Although no group has claimed responsibility, it is almost certain that the perpetrators were extreme nationalists from one of the various factions within the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation (IMRO). Radio reports said that police had arrested two men and sealed the borders.

President Gligorov has been under serious pressure from nationalists within his party and IMRO over his concessions to Greece on the flag and constitution of the republic, in the American-brokered deal with Greece at the end of last month. The last straw was the President's visit to Belgrade over the weekend and his agreement with President Milosevic of Serbia to a draft agreement that would give de facto recognition to the state under its present name of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. This is seen by IMRO as a sellout to Serbia, and part of the wider pattern of pro-Greek American diplomacy, which the Gligorov Government has been unable to resist.



Gligorov: believed to be critically injured

James Pettifer is a senior associate member of St Antony's College, Oxford

Man 'fathered eight children by sister'

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

A FLORIDA couple with eight children are facing incest charges after claims that they are brother and sister.


The pair are known only as William M., 64, and Deborah M., 44, to protect the identity of the children. The youngsters, aged between one and 19, are said to have mental and emotional problems.

If the parents go to jail, all but the eldest will be sent to foster homes. Social workers have persuaded a judge to let them stay with their mother pending trial on October 30. The pair were brought up in a family of a dozen in Miami.

According to the couple, they began living together in 1972 when William asked his 21-year-old sister to join him in a search for God. He said that he was given a mission to bring peace to the world in the year 2000, and that the Book of Leviticus instructed him to take a mate from his family.

All the children have low IQs, between 52 and 86, with 80 being the mark used to determine learning disability. William, a carpenter, builds pyramids which he says protect against hurricanes and asteroids, and guards the fate of humanity.

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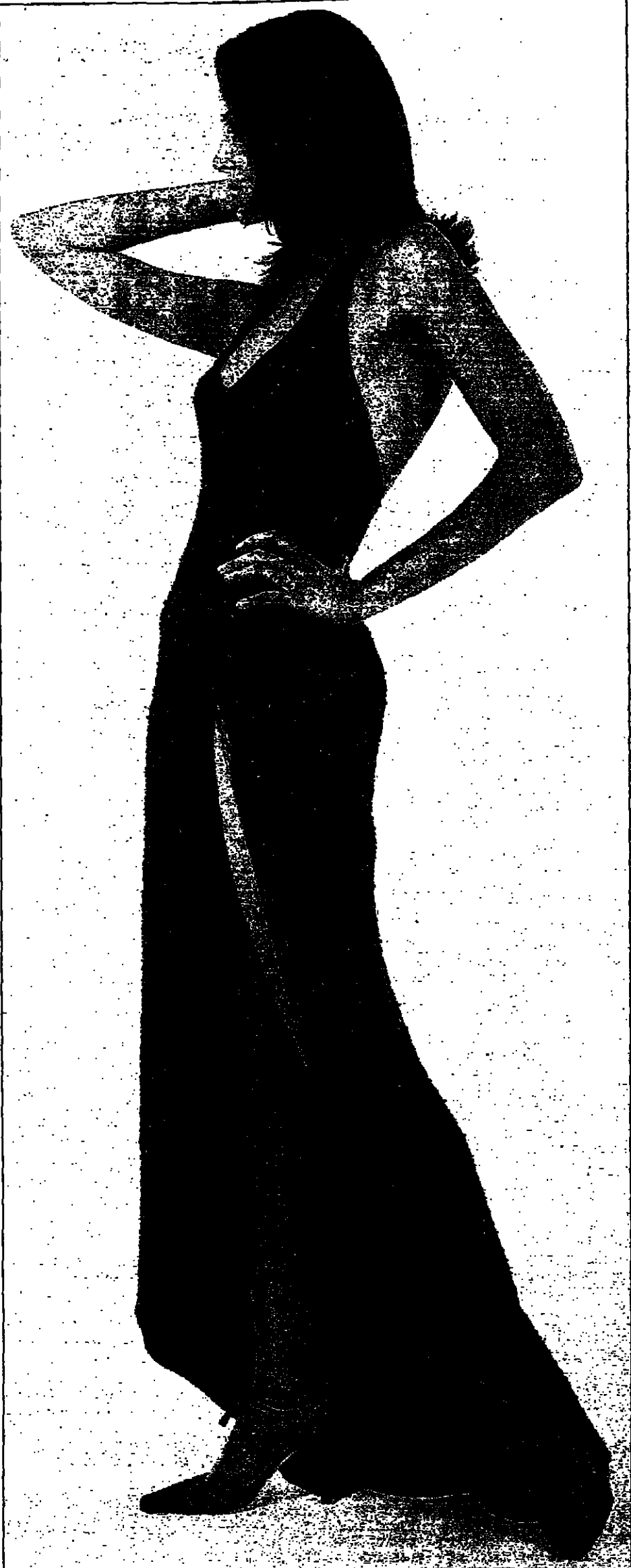
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ABOVE: Grey wool knitted top, £180; red wool trousers, £250; stilettos to order from Hussein Chalayan at Jones, 15 Floral Street, WC2; Brown's 27 South Molton Street, W1 (0171-240 5224). Leather bag, £380, Anya Hindmarch at 91 Walton Street, SW3; Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1; Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1; Liberty, Regent Street, W1. RIGHT: Black chiffon beaded halter dress, to order, Catherine Walker, 65 Sydney Street, SW3 (0171-352 4626). Black ankle tie shoes, £290, Manolo Blahnik at 49-51 Old Church Street, SW3 (0171-352 3863)



ABOVE: Chocolate brown fleck jacket, £249; matching skirt, £109, Jaeger London (0171-200 4211)

LEFT: Brown fake snake belted jacket, £244.99; black skirt, £109, Oasis, 292 Regent Street, W1 and branches (0171-436 0474). Kitten heel shoes, £260, Manolo Blahnik (as above)

RIGHT: Black beaded/mesh jacket to order; black satin jeans, £89, Nicole Farhi, 158 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-499 8368). Turquoise silk shirt, £95, Whistles, 27 Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 9618). Black turtleneck, £120, Stephen Jones, Selfridges, Oxford Street, W1. High loafers, £115, Patrick Cox, 129 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-730 8886).

Photographs: CHRIS DAWES
Make-up: Stephanie Jenkins
Hair: Kevin Ford for Headmasters, Wimbledon village (0181-947 5034)



Winning looks for winter

The winter wardrobe shown on this page is British fashion at its best, with something to offer at every price level — from a pencil skirt suit by Jaeger to Catherine Walker's beaded gown, a stretch shirt by Oasis, or a shiny version by Whistles.

Hussein Chalayan's slim wool trousers provide something red. Nicole Farhi has a great tuxedo trouser suit, while the fake snake jacket by Oasis is a must.

Then the accessories which count: Manolo Blahnik's kitten heels, Patrick Cox's high loafers, Anya Hindmarch's car-paint shiny bag, and a turtleneck by Stephen Jones. As the fashion world prepares for the start of a four-week frockathon — beginning tomorrow when Italian designers unveil their new lines for spring/summer 1996, and travelling from Milan to Paris, London and New York — British designers are also preparing for their annual awards ceremony.

The Lloyds Bank British



Fashion Awards 1995, held at the Natural History Museum in London and the glamorous finale to London Fashion Week, is more than a contest; it is a back-slapping celebration of the cream of British fashion.

This year there is good reason. Even those who do not walk away with a trophy at the end of the evening still have reason to congratulate themselves. Britain's high street stores have never looked better, stocked with well-priced, up-to-the-minute merchandise which often features alongside designer labels in the glossy magazines. The Fashion Week schedule covers five days with 33 catwalk presentations.

British fashion is also making heads turn on the interna-

tional stage. Earlier this year John Galiano, Designer of the Year at last year's awards, made headlines around the world when he was officially introduced as the new designer-in-chief at the couture house of Givenchy in Paris. Galiano is again nominated for Designer of the Year, which would make it a hat-trick for the young star.

"The Lloyds Bank British Fashion Awards is a high-profile award that is respected worldwide," Galiano says. "It has become an important event on the world fashion calendar."

There are now 11 awards with three new design-orientated categories introduced: Retailer (featuring high street labels), Street Style (young and funky fashion for which we are envious around the globe), and Contemporary Collections (upmarket designer labels). Two other new awards are for Fashion Personality and Fashion Journalist of the Year.

"Since sponsoring the awards we've been keen to broaden the event to reflect the British public's growing interest in fashion," says David Goldesmyne, the sponsorship manager at Lloyds Bank. "High-quality clothing backed by world-class design talent is now available on the high street. The new categories recognise this."

Whatever the results of the awards, the sheer diversity of British fashion certainly deserves celebration.

• The Lloyds Bank British Fashion Awards will be featured in a Clothes Show special on Sunday, October 29.

NOMINEES	
CONTEMPORARY COLLECTIONS	ACCESSORY
NICOLE FARHI	PATRICK COX
JOSEPH	STEPHEN JONES
BETTY JACKSON	ANYA HINDMARCH
JOHN ROCHA	MANOLO BLAHNIK
CLASSICS	GLAMOUR
MARKS & SPENCER	BEN DE LISI
JAEGER	AMANDA WAKELEY
JOHN SMEDLEY	CATHERINE WALKER
AQUASCUTUM	BELLVILLE SASSOON
RETAILER	NEW GENERATION
OASIS	PEARCE FORDA
WHISTLES	CLEMENTS RIBEIRO
WAREHOUSE	HUSSEIN CHALAYAN
JIGSAW	SONNENTAG MULLIGAN
STREET STYLE	DESIGNER OF THE YEAR
RED OR DEAD	JOHN GALLIANO
SIGN OF THE TIMES	PATRICK COX
PATRICK COX	HUSSEIN CHALAYAN
HUSSEIN CHALAYAN	BELLA FREUD

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Georgina von Etzdorf

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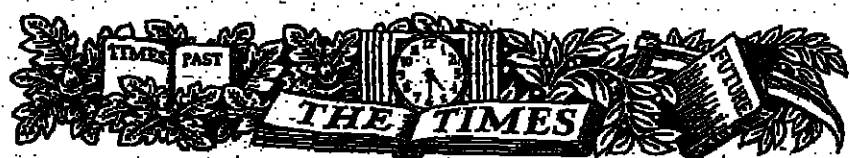
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O. J. WALKS

Who was the true victim of the Simpson case?

The opening of the sealed envelope containing the jury's verdict was as dramatic a finale to the O. J. Simpson trial as any scriptwriter could have devised. It was prime time *par excellence*: the silence in the court was riveting as Judge Ito awaited the result of the jurors' astonishingly brief deliberations. The case ended as it began, in a sensation televised around the globe. For a moment yesterday, America — and much of the world — came to a standstill to hear the not guilty verdict.

The sheer brevity of the 12 jurors' debate had encouraged expectation of just the opposite. Surely they could not have dismissed the prosecution's forensic case in a mere four hours? Surely, in fact, they had found these arguments so compelling that they had ignored completely the claims of the defence that Mr Simpson was the victim of police racism? These speculations proved spectacularly ill-founded. Evidently, the predominantly black jury came to a swift consensus that the defendant had fallen foul of racist attitudes in the Los Angeles Police Department. It could not convict him of the murder of his wife Nicole and her friend Ronald Goldman.

Sometimes, the trial seemed more of a televised spectacle than an exercise in democratic justice. In the course of this long-running legal soap opera, many were fooled by the claim that the nation itself was in the dock. In practice, however, the trial was not a judgment on American society; it was a battle between two definitions of justice. On the one hand, the jurors were invited to judge Mr Simpson using the traditional procedures of the American criminal justice system. They were invited to assess forensic evidence, the question of alibi and possible motive. They were asked to form a judgment on the facts presented to them, and form that judgment irrespective of its consequences outside the courtroom.

But other persuasive forces were at work. The jurors were also invited to see Mr Simpson as a victim of racist conspiracy and an emblem for the suffering of America's blacks: a representative of an embattled social group, in other words, rather than a morally free individual. Likewise, the taped bigoted remarks of one detective, Mark Fuhrman, became symbolic of centuries of racist oppression. One legal expert described the trial as "the Chernobyl of racial justice" raining "fall-out" down upon an uneasy nation. Johnnie Cochran, the defence attorney, spoke of police racism as "America's nightmare" and urged the jury to do something about it. "Maybe you're the right people at the right time and the right place to say: 'No more!'" he told them. A not guilty verdict, he appeared to suggest, would somehow compensate for the hurt caused to America's blacks in the past. The jury seems to have been persuaded by his fiery persuasion.

There may be no race riots in Los Angeles as a result of this verdict, but there will be plenty of angry questions. The vindication of the defence case will persuade many blacks that the Los Angeles Police Department is irredeemably racist and that Mr Simpson's experience was no different from the beating administered to Rodney King in 1991. It is hard to be optimistic about the implications of this trial for that city. But it is to be hoped that other Americans will not treat the verdict as a verdict on their society.

Not all cities are like Los Angeles; not all policemen are racist. Few trials are as bitterly politicised as this one. A nation cannot resolve its psychic traumas in a courtroom and should not try. Yesterday Mr Simpson sped off to liberty, pursued on the freeway once more. Months of agonised analysis and media introspection will doubtless follow; but all that really matters is that his wife's murderer is still on the loose.

BLAIR'S NEW WORLD

Will tomorrow's Britain take moral leadership from any party?

Tony Blair is emerging as the magpie of British politics, and his leader's speech yesterday opened up to the world the contents of his nest. Gleaning new technological policies for the information world (shades of Harold Wilson) sat side by side with invocations to make Britain great again (courtesy of Margaret Thatcher) and to recreate it as one nation (thanks to Disraeli). But the greatest power and passion was reserved for a Kennedyesque call for national moral renewal.

In an echo of the passing of power from one generation to another when President Kennedy took office, Mr Blair talked of Britain becoming a "young" country again, "where people succeed on the basis of what they give to their country, rather than what they take from their country". He plundered the Bible too: "I am my brother's keeper. I will not walk by on the other side."

Mr Blair has a good sense for the anxieties of modern Britain: the paradox that rising prosperity has been accompanied by greater insecurity, and not just at work. "We suffer a depth of insecurity and spiritual doubt," he said of his generation, that his parents never knew. It is a generation "frightened for our future and unsure of our soul".

Souls are more usually the stuff of pulpits than politics. But the Labour leader knows that there is a nerve there to be touched. Margaret Thatcher set out to reverse the economic decline of Britain; Mr Blair wants to address the country's moral and social decline. In some ways this is a harder task. Politicians cannot legislate to make people help or respect each other. They cannot pass laws to create social cohesion or restore hope. All that they can do is to lead a crusade by exhortation and hope that the people will

be inspired to follow. The ground is undoubtedly fertile. Idealism has virtually vanished from politics and the young in particular are in danger of being disconnected and alienated from the democratic system. They have ideals in abundance, but are reluctant to trust politicians with them: Mr Blair's blatant appeal to youth, in his vision of a "young country", is designed to entice the young back into mainstream politics.

Older generations too sense a loss of moral fibre and shared values, which is why politicians on both sides of the Atlantic have been exploring ways of recreating a community spirit. Mr Blair yesterday stole their lines. "We have to have the courage to build a new civic society, a new social order — where everyone has a stake and everyone plays a part."

The Conservatives have tried to play this game. But Mr Blair's moral crusade will be as difficult to ape as it will be to criticise. The Tories have many lines of attack on Labour: they can point to the dangers of a resurgence of the Left, to economic incompetence, to old Labour in local government or to promises that cannot be delivered without higher taxation. Yet they cannot persuade voters to doubt the sincerity or conviction of the Labour leader when he seizes the moral high ground.

Nor can they claim it for themselves. Too many promises have been broken, too much sleaze uncovered — and the Scott report is still to come. Mr Blair is occupying political territory that he will find easy to defend. The British will no longer take moral leadership from the Conservatives. The Tories' only hope must be that the British will take it from no one.

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE

Britain must stand by France over nuclear testing

With each nuclear test in the South Pacific, the opposition to France grows ever more clamorous. After the first test last month, riots ripped across Tahiti, many European foreign ministers blustered censoriously about the environment, the antipodean Commonwealth lost its customary poise — and Greenpeace was, well, Greenpeace. Now, after the second French test on Monday, this criticism has seemed to approach boiling point.

The Pacific Forum has severed ties with Paris (although individual states have been careful not to break off diplomatic relations with the Government of President Chirac), and the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand have turned their political muskets on a brand new target. That target is Britain.

But why Britain? The answer, in so far as there is any which responds to reason, lies in the Government's failure to board the bandwagon of protest and hysteria. The Foreign Office has, instead, been circumspect — perhaps too circumspect. "If the French decide there is a need to have tests before a comprehensive test ban treaty, that is a matter for them, and for them to justify," a spokesman said.

Of course the tests are a matter for the French, and Britain, with an acute understanding of sovereign rights and their exercise, has done well to emphasise that fact. The French, for their part, have justified their nuclear tests sufficiently well to satisfy

the reasonable inquirer. As Hervé de Charette, their Foreign Minister, has explained — as have numerous French scientists and strategic planners — these tests are needed to ensure the safety of that country's nuclear arsenal. For practical and technical reasons, France is not yet in a position to rely on laboratory simulation for safety testing.

The "environmentalist" objections to French practice, however, have escaped the net of common sense. Attitudes and postures are being struck by politicians, particularly in Australia and New Zealand, which are as simplistic as they are opportunistic. A complex matter, which repays careful attention, has acquired the flavour of a bad Western: us versus them, good guys and bad guys, nuclear "cowboys" versus pacific, earth-conscious "Indians". No matter that the real nuclear dangers lie elsewhere, in Chernobyl, and in the ageing reactors to be found still in Russia, Central Europe and across the former Soviet Union.

The truth, of course, is that the vociferous opposition to the French tests is fed by an opposition to nuclear deterrence itself. That is why Britain is right not to criticise France: in fact, how could it? Little has occurred since the end of the Cold War to suggest that nuclear deterrence is no longer a legitimate part of Britain's strategic equation. Paris subscribes to the same logic, which is why it wants to ensure that its weapons work before it ceases testing altogether.

Nato priorities in Eastern Europe

From Mr Hugh Hanning

Sir, Your leader of September 29, "Strategic priorities", is first-class in every particular. The enlargement of Nato is an extraordinary idea, and not just because of Russian apprehensions. It could also commit British troops and taxpayers to defending Hungarians against Romanians, or vice versa.

A far better idea has been the constructive collaboration of Partnership for Peace, the defence arrangement between Nato and the former members of the Warsaw Pact, which is simultaneously advancing the new life-saving role of Nato and encouraging enlightened policies in Eastern Europe.

If Nato still feels a responsibility to deter Russia in that part of the world, there exists a very powerful option: non-military deterrence. This has scarcely been tried. But there is every reason to believe that the Russians would do anything to avoid a repetition of the pulverising economic punishment which they received for Afghanistan in the 1980s, and which virtually brought the Government down.

Properly used as a deterrent, this weapon could be quite as effective, safer and much more credible than any nuclear guarantee.

Yours etc,
HUGH HANNING,
18 Montpelier Row, Blackheath, SE3.
October 1.

From Mr Ralph L. Broughton

Sir, A proposal to extend the membership of Nato — already an unwieldy body — to include other countries formerly associated with the USSR would be extraordinary at any time; but to announce it (report, September 27) when it is essential to have Russia's agreement to a peace plan for former Yugoslavia is astonishing.

The proposals, if put into effect, would be tantamount to a revival of the Cold War. That "every effort will be made to reassure Moscow that the expansion plans pose no threat to Russia" as the Nato document apparently makes clear, is completely futile.

I am saddened and profoundly disturbed that this country should be party to a Nato plan which is plainly provocative.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH L. BROUGHTON,
28 Woodmansterne Lane,
Banstead, Surrey.
October 2.

Bomber's manifesto

From Mr Bernard Barnett

Sir, I write, both as a former journalist and as a colleague of one of the victims of the American Unabomber, to deplore the unanimous condemnation by British newspaper editors (Media, September 27) of *The Washington Post's* decision to publish the Unabomber's 35,000-word treatise.

It scarcely compromises the integrity of the press to devote part of one issue of a publication that appears virtually every day of the year to a newsworthy — and, as a matter of fact, not uninteresting — insight into the mind of this killer.

Neither is it submission to blackmail. The Unabomber made an offer to cease his attacks on people if the *Post* or *The New York Times* would print his diatribe. Somewhat to his surprise, I think, the *Post*, with the support of the *NYT*, took him up on it.

Having seen and endured the grief that the Unabomber has inflicted on my own company — though of course this is nothing compared with the pain and suffering of the family — I applaud the *Post's* courageous action in seeking to prevent a recurrence. If it succeeds it will have performed a priceless public service. Isn't that the first function of the press?

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD BARNETT
(Executive Vice-President),
Young & Rubicam Europe,
Greater London House,
Hampstead Road, NW1.
September 28.

Serving the needy

From the Right Reverend J. R. Satterthwaite

Sir, Your leader of September 26 suggests that the Church of St Dunstan-in-the-West could well have its crypt used as a wine bar or restaurant. May I remind you that there were plans afoot in the 1960s to turn it into a shelter for the homeless and destitute.

As well as being a Benedictine, St Dunstan was also a great reformer of the Church in his day. Some of us hope that his premises can be used to the benefit of those less fortunate and in greater need than most who work or live in that part of the City.

El Vino and the other restaurant wine bars in Fleet Street have long rendered excellent service to many of us involved in the service of Christ.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. SATTERTHWAITE
(Vicar of St Dunstan-in-the-West, 1959-1970),
25 Spencer House,
St Paul's Square, Carlisle, Cumbria.
September 27.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Reform' of degree classification

From the Vice-Chancellor of the Nottingham Trent University

Sir, Your Shakespearean vision (leading article, "Take but degree away", September 30; reports, September 29) of the discord which might follow any modification of the British degree classification system is perhaps slightly over the top.

My own view is that it is now urgently necessary to supplement the present degree classifications with further key information describing the skills and abilities of particular graduates for the benefit of future employers.

To their credit, recruiters of graduates have regularly told higher education that they look for more than academic and professional skills in prospective employees. In particular, they value skills in analysis, leadership and communication.

If these various skills could be profiled, assessed and described in a standard way across the higher education system (perhaps through higher-level national vocational qualifications) we could have the best of both worlds: traditional academic practice supplemented by accurate, reliable and useful information.

It is unfair, therefore, to suggest, as you do, that the current thinking of the vice-chancellors is influenced by "political correctness" or a desire simply to escape the traditional degree classifications.

We now have an opportunity to describe the abilities, and potential abilities, of our graduates in ways which respect both the need for national standards and the individual talents of particular students. We can move forward, through partnership, and avoid the "mere oppugnancy" which Shakespeare's *Ulysses* feared would flow from any disturbance of the traditional order.

Yours sincerely,
RAY COWELL,
Vice-Chancellor,
The Nottingham Trent University,
Burton Street, Nottingham.
October 2.

From Professor C. W. Davidson

Sir, Congratulations on your leader supporting the retention of the present degree classification system. As you suggest, a change to providing a record of attainment would mean merely that those who are awarded a high

classification under the present system would be given a glowing assessment by their lecturers. This would not address the root problem, which arises because there is not, and never has been, an absolute standard for a first-class honours degree.

A first in languages, for example, cannot be compared on an absolute scale with a first in science. Even a comparison of degrees in the same discipline, but from different departments, can only hope to show rough equality because our external examiner system is at best imperfect.

I do not believe that there has been a decline in the standards set by the best universities. However, as the institutions awarding degrees have proliferated there is now a much greater difficulty in standardising the classification of degrees between universities and a much broader range in the standards set.

The Higher Education Quality Council has the responsibility to address this matter and must do so urgently, but within the framework of the present classification system. Changing the system will not solve the problem.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN W. DAVIDSON,
20 East Barton Avenue,
Edinburgh 4.
October 2.

From Professor A. I. Solomon

Sir, Universities in the UK invariably involve an external examiner in the classification of degrees in order to maintain consistency; there is therefore no reason why "a first from a former polytechnic" should be easier to obtain than one from Oxbridge (as your leader writer assumes), although the latter may well be more "prestigious" for other, less tangible, reasons.

In addition to awarding the usual degree classifications, the Open University has always supplied transcripts of the student's record of attainment. This solution would appear to go some way to reassuring the vice-chancellors as well as satisfying the traditionalists.

Yours etc,
ALLAN SOLOMON,
Faculty of Mathematics and Computing,
The Open University,
Milton Keynes MK7 6AA.
October 1.

Rich and poor

From Mrs Susan Taylor

Sir, Last month the BBC interviewed a single mother who has six children by four different fathers and is about to marry a convicted sex-offender.

She wants the State to fund a sterilisation reversal, so that she can have another baby by this man, even though the child would be taken into care.

Meanwhile, she lives comfortably off the State, apparently unconcerned by the moral issues presented by her lifestyle.

By contrast my husband and I have worked all our adult lives and have both contributed our taxes for some thirty years. Because my husband has had a redundancy pay-off from his company we cannot claim assistance from the Government, and we don't even qualify for a grant for our youngest daughter, who is at university.

Street signs

From Dr Trevor Hudson

Sir, Mr R. Fernyhough's letter (September 29) about the shortcomings of our street signs has more urgent implications. Just over a month ago an ambulance was called to an emergency when a patient collapsed at his home in Chelsea. It was after dark and the crew experienced considerable delay because they had difficulty in finding the correct street.

The next morning, in daylight, I went back to find out how this had happened. There was only one street sign, high up on a building and partly obscured by a tree.

It is time for all street signs to be fixed at a level where, after dark, the headlights of any vehicle can illuminate them in an emergency and so avoid such potentially dangerous circumstances.

Yours faithfully,
TREVOR HUDSON,
25 Cadogan Place, SW1.
October 1.

Brussels 'canard'

From Mr Bernard Connolly

Sir, Your report (September 29) of the European Commission's decision to suspend me from my duties repeats suggestions, apparently attributable to Commission officials, that a staff doctor once had to attend to me in my office. Such suggestions are simply untrue. In any case such events for non-emergencies in my case are hardly newsworthy — unless they are used by the Institution concerned in campaigns of name-blackening.

Your reporter was quite right to describe comments made about me by Commission officials as "scurrilous".

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD CONNOLLY,
c/o Faber and Faber Ltd,
3 Queen Square, WC1.
October 1.

A sailor's tanner to save Greenwich?

From Commander Roger Paine, RN

Sir, Just over 400 years ago Sir John Hawkins, then Treasurer of the Tudor Navy, founded the "Chatham Chest" for the relief of sick and wounded Elizabethan sailors and that from 1625 onwards every man was ordered to contribute sixpence a month from his wages to this early "charitable fund". The money was dropped through a tiny hole into the chest which was secured by four padlocks, the keys of which were reputedly held by four different admirals in order to prevent clandestine embezzlement.

In 1803 the chest was renamed the "Chatham Chest" and the accrued contents combined with the funds of the Greenwich Hospital to maintain the buildings which now comprise the RN College, Greenwich. The original chest can still be seen today at the nearby National Maritime Museum.

As the Greenwich College site is now controversially on the open market (letters, September 11, 14, 19) at an annual rental of £400,000 it might be appropriate to re-establish use of the chest and obtain mandatory contributions from today's serving officers and men.

Even by conservative estimates of inflation sixpence (2½p) must be worth at least £10 so that a single month's contributions from every one of the 50,000 members of the 1995 Royal Navy would easily pay the first year's rent in advance and ensure the RN remains on its historic site.

As agents, Messrs Knight, Frank and Rutley would be custodians of the padlock keys.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
ROGER PAINE,
4 Yeats Close, Eliot Park, SE13.
October 1.

'Peter Pan' student

From Professor Stanley Peart, FRS

Sir, The case of the 32-year-old medical student, Mr Brian Mackinnon, who succeeded in feigning the age of 17 and in passing his school exams (reports, September 20, 21, 25-30) raises some interesting questions.

Only Glasgow University knows the reason for turning down his application for readmission to the medical course for which it had accepted him when younger; but his subsequent expulsion from Dundee University seems rather harsh, despite the false pretences under which he had been accepted there.

I may have been over-impressed by Mr Mackinnon's determination to succeed and by his ingenuity; but medical students frequently give reasons for wishing to enter medicine which may not be wholly credible or verifiable, and they may then drop out even after qualification.

Surely, even now, there is a case for clemency? We all expect the highest standards from doctors, but some may have to turn on the road to Damascus — or even Dundee.

Yours etc,
STANLEY PEART,
17 Highgate Close, N6.
October 2.

Copts and Orthodox

From Mr Andrew Bond

Sir, You report ("Priest's Elm business blooms", September 30) that the Reverend Tony Clements is one of a number of former Anglican clergymen who have been recently ordained in "the Orthodox Church".

Mr Clements is joining the group of English people who are part of the Coptic Church which is based in Egypt. This group do use the word "Orthodox" in their title (British Orthodox Church), as do the Coptic Church as a whole. It should be made clear, however, that there exists a profound doctrinal difference between them and the "Greek" Orthodox Church.

The Copts have gone their own separate way since their refusal to accept the decisions of the 4th Ecumenical Council held in Chalcedon in the year 451. The doctrinal stumbling block was, and still is, the two natures of Christ (divine and human). The Copts are known as Monophysites because they believe that Christ had only one nature. His divine nature.

The consequence of this is that Christ did not become man in the full sense but merely took on the outward appearance of a man in order to walk on earth. This doctrine deprives the sacrifice on Calvary of reality, making it simply a charade, with devastating consequences for our salvation.

Yours,
ANDREW BOND (Editor),
Orthodox News,
64 Prebend Gardens, W6.
October 1.

Party colours

From Mr Stephen L. Phillips

Sir, I note that, in your Sports section's "Premiership at a glance" table today, red indicates "up"; blue indicates "down"; and orange indicates "unchanged".

Do you expect to use the same colour scheme when reporting the outcome of the next general election?

Yours sincerely,
STEPHEN L. PHILLIPS,
The Mount, Chirk, Clwyd.
October 2.

OBITUARIES

LYNETTE ROBERTS

Lynette Roberts, poet, died in Ferryside, Dyfed, on September 26 aged 86. She was born in Buenos Aires on July 4, 1909.

AFTER coming to the notice of T. S. Eliot who had read her work in magazines, Lynette Roberts became known to a wider public through her two volumes of verse, *Poems* (1944) and *Gods with Stainless Ears* (1951), which were published, thanks to Eliot, by Faber and Faber. In the mid-1950s, however, her poetic gift deserted her and she wrote no more verse. Indeed, only towards the end of her life was she able to contemplate her writing with any degree of satisfaction, and at the same time to urge the young to write.

Nevertheless, small though her output was, it can be seen that hers is an authentic voice, part of the tradition of Welsh-speaking English writers of verse. A new collection of her poems, which includes previously unpublished material, is currently being prepared for publication by the Seren Press.

Evelyn Beatrice Roberts was the eldest of four children, whose parents, Australians of Welsh extraction, settled in Argentina where her father became general manager and director of the country's Western Railways. Her childhood was disturbed, as she recounts in her hitherto unpublished autobiography, which is also due to appear in print.

At the outbreak of war in 1914, her father went from Argentina to Bournemouth with his family and horses en route to the Western Front. Lynette and her eldest sister, Winifred, were boarded out in circumstances that became traumatic, but eventually they were rescued by their mother. After a period of tension, her parents were reunited in Argentina after the war.

Her mother, however, died of typhoid shortly afterwards, having drunk contaminated water from a well. Lynette, who was at a convent school in Buenos Aires, was sent with her sisters and brother to England, where she completed her education at the Central School of Arts and Crafts.

On the outbreak of war in 1939 she



moved to Wales where she married the writer and editor Keldrych Rhys and settled in a tiny, two-roomed, whitewashed cottage called Ty Gwyn (White House) in the village of Llanybri, near Llansteffan in Carmarthenshire. Indeed, she did not think of herself as a poet until she reached Llanybri, "the village of lace and stone", as she called it in her poem *Lamentation*. It was there that Roberts wrote the poems for which she is now remembered, especially after Keldrych Rhys was called up for war service.

The poems she produced during the war were complemented by a diary (now being prepared for publication

after her *Collected Poems*), a study of village dialect, published in 1944, and much research into Welsh mythological, historical and literary material. The fruits of this she shared with Robert Graves, who was at this time composing what became *The White Goddess* (1948). Extracts from their correspondence were published in a special number of *Poetry Wales* in 1983. This brought her name back into the public domain and she was elected to Yr Academi Gymreig (the Welsh Academy) immediately afterwards.

Roberts's poetry was inspired by her passionate identification with the way of life of Llanybri. In her poems

she casts herself as a bard proclaiming the values of her people and repeatedly quotes from Welsh sources, including Bishop Morgan's Bible, by way of explaining her opposition to war. In *Gods with Stainless Ears*, she quotes one of the villagers likening the soldiers who were engaged in coastal defence to the men who went to Catraeth (where they were defeated by the Saxons) in Ancirin's 6th-century poem *The Gododdin*. She urges the villagers to defend their values and aligns her poetry in sympathy with them.

While Roberts's poems encompass these wider matters, they also embrace personal concerns: she may have been a non-combatant but she was fighting a war of her own. For a while she felt estranged from Llanybri; she suffered a miscarriage and nearly died; and she missed Rhys. It was to her poems and diary that she turned for her mainstay. Here she reflects on the cows being taken in for milking of an evening:

WAR. There's no sense in it.
Just look at her two lovely eyes
Look at those green big big eyes
And the way she hangs her tail
WAR. There's no sense in it
For us simple people
We all get on so well...
Hal-e-bant Fan Fach.
Hal-e-bant for the day is long
We must strengthen it
Ourselves.

When poems like these began to be printed in magazines, T. S. Eliot was attracted by Roberts's powers of observation, her original idiom, her gift for verse construction (partly influenced by her studies in Welsh-language poetry) and her ability to evoke scenery and place. In *Gods with Stainless Ears*, she also showed herself to be a fully-fledged modernist in the Eliot manner, employing his "mythic method" with many learned references and allusions.

Roberts's marriage to Keldrych Rhys was dissolved in 1949 and she moved for a while to Laugharne, across the River Taf, home of her friend Dylan Thomas (who had been

best man at her wedding). For a while she lived in a caravan with her two children, Angharad and Prydein.

She then moved to England, where she enjoyed the friendship and support of Edith Sitwell and Wyndham Lewis. She published a book on Captain Cook's first voyage to Australia, *The Endeavour*, in 1954, but her third volume of verse was rejected by T. S. Eliot. Sadly, her muse had deserted her. In 1955 she suffered a breakdown and gave up poetry. Thereafter, her life was marked by increasing paranoia and hallucinations.

In 1969 she returned to Llanybri and eventually Carmarthen, where she lived a simple life, often unwell, physically and mentally. She found her consolation in religious studies and became a Jehovah's Witness. Her last years were spent in relative contentment in a home across the water from Llansteffan, almost within view of Llanybri. She at last began to take pleasure in reading and discussing her poetry again and encouraged the republication of her poems. The only sadness is that she did not live to see them re-emerge.

Verses like the following:

Washing like flies to pin of elbow,
Under ciliated moon shake off
Of soap: strike code on oxidised
Bayonets clean as the cut of the
Sharpen inactivity. Spark electric
cells

Of air into a prism of light as they
Shoulder the blades on parade. A
Strips fields: striating black
Belying-white trees as they stand
And chagrin.

establish her as an original voice, part of that remarkable surge of Welsh English-speaking writers that took place from the middle years of the century onwards.

Lynette Roberts is survived by her daughter and son.

MOLLIE HARRIS



Mollie Harris, actress, broadcaster and writer, died on October 3 aged 82. She was born on June 23, 1913.

THE quintessential English countrywoman, Mollie Harris spoke with a gentle mellifluous burr which, for millions of radio listeners, has become synonymous with the nation's rural life. For 25 years she played Martha Woodford, keeper of the Penny Haggan post-office shop in *The Archers*.

Breathing richness and veracity into the character, Harris took Martha from her beginnings as an attractive widow, through the various dalliances and adventures of mature years, and into the eccentricities of an old age spent struggling to come to terms with ghosts and VAT slips, and with the task of keeping the phone box clean. Martha's character became almost inseparable from Harris's own.

Harris always declared herself a countrywoman first and an actress second. She had been brought up in a close-knit rural community, where the cows wound home through leafy lanes, where curfew bells pulled the wains and cottage rooms flickered in evening candlelight. It was this air of bucolic England which Harris brought to *The Archers*, managing to meld it with the changing times. She kept pace as a everyday story of country folk gradually became the tale of a more modern world: of Range Rovers and rural poverty, of hippy convoys and animal rights.

Born in the Cotswold village of Ducklington, near Witney, Harris and her six brothers and sisters were brought up in "happy poverty". Her parents had to struggle to make ends meet. They grew vegetables and kept hens, and every year, when their Cotswold relations sent a couple of rabbits by post, with legs tied together and brown paper labels, and their mother baked them with onions and brown dripping, there was a memorable feast.

Harris was educated at the local village school, but perhaps her most valuable lessons were learnt at the side of her mother who taught her the names of butterflies and flowers. At the age of 14 she left school and went with her sister to work at a laundry in Witney where they took on ironing — one of the few tasks which Harris was to hate for the rest of her life.

She is survived by a son.

During the war she drove a grocer's lorry, delivering sugar, salt and flour, loading and unloading the 2cwt sacks unaided. There were no signposts in those days. Through trial and error she learnt her way around the Cotswold lanes. She knew the area like the back of her hand and though when she married in 1937 she moved from her native village, she never lived more than a few miles away from it for the rest of her life.

After the war was over Harris continued to work part-time for a wholesale grocer, but found seasonal employment on local farms, picking and sorting potatoes and bringing in the harvest. It was here that she began to jot down the country stories that she heard, and to make notes of the recipes of the farmers' wives.

When she sent these stories to the producer of *In The Country*, a programme presented by Phil Drabble, her broadcasting career began. Harris became a regular contributor to the programme, and her voice grew familiar to all the listeners of the Midlands Home Service.

Some of her work was subsequently accepted on other programmes, including *Regional Extra*. She was one of the first voices on the new BBC Radio Oxford, and presented *Radio 4's The Countryside*... *Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter* as well as a cookery series for BBC Midlands. In her television interviews her gentle rural manner set even the most baffled interviewees at their ease. She wrote more than a dozen books about country life.

In 1970 Harris joined *The Archers* which, now the longest running soap opera, is soon to celebrate its 45th anniversary. It is estimated to have upwards of four million regular listeners. "The voice of Mollie Harris became part of daily life for a whole generation," said Michael Green, Controller of BBC Radio 4. But despite her success, Harris never strayed far from her country roots. She never came to the studio without wearing a flower, and her delicious home baking and potent sloe gin were always popular with other members of the cast.

Though because of illness her last transmitted appearance was on August 29, her family will be consulted as to how they would like her character to be written out of the script.

There was no sign of anything in the nature of a hospital, a tent, or of anything above ground. I was getting somewhat weary of being told to lie down flat every few seconds to avoid bursting shells, when I saw a couple of stretcher-bearers coming through the haze: from nowhere and then disappear underground. "It is underneath there," I was told by my guide, whose daily duty it was to inspect these medical outposts.

ON THIS DAY

October 4, 1916



In an article of page length, Lord Northcliffe, owner of *The Times*, describes the stages the wounded travel from field dressing to hospital ship.

load. There is a lightning diagnosis, an antiseptic application, bandaging, a hastily-written label tied to the man's breast, and the wounded one is borne off and away in the open to the next stage, the Advanced Dressing Station, which is as often as not also pushed right up into the fire zone.

I know no more moving experience than an afternoon in an advanced dressing station. Let me describe that of West Ponne. Its location is changed now, so I am giving the enemy no information. We reached it on a heavy and sultry Sunday afternoon by hiding ourselves behind anything possible. Dust and smoke gave the atmosphere of a coming thunder-

THE WAR DOCTORS.

THEIR LIFE UNDER FIRE.

BY LORD NORTHCLIFFE.

Somewhere in France.

In the preparations for the great Battle of the Somme, Sir Douglas Haig, through in this as in every other detail, himself co-operated with the medical services in arranging his regimental aid posts, his casualty clearing stations, and the rest of them as systematically as his batteries, his ammunition "dumps" and his reserves.

First in the order of danger is the Regimental Aid Post, where the regimental doctor, with his stretcher-bearers, awaits, alongside the men who are to clamber "over the top," the bloody fruits of battle. In the early days of the war, before we had discovered the secret, or had the means, to blast our road into Germany by ceaseless shells, the Regimental Aid Post was, as a rule, in some deserted farmhouse as near to the front trench as possible. To-day, as we advance, our guns leave nothing standing, so that what was once perhaps a chateau is now only a stretch of rubble. There is therefore but little available cover for the doctors or the others before "consolidation".

The stretcher-bearers stagger in with their

storm, the thudding of the guns on both sides was incessant.

There was no sign of anything in the nature of a hospital, a tent, or of anything above ground. I was getting somewhat weary of being told to lie down flat every few seconds to avoid bursting shells, when I saw a couple of stretcher-bearers coming through the haze: from nowhere and then disappear underground. "It is underneath there," I was told by my guide, whose daily duty it was to inspect these medical outposts.

As quickly as possible we got down into a trench and followed the stretcher-bearers. There, in the darkness, lit by a few candles, we gradually made out a very grim scene. Owing to the heavy enemy shell fire what I soon found to be an underground maze had become completely blocked with wounded men lying in the dark on their stretchers, the passage ways dug out of the clayish earth being just the width of a stretcher-handle and no more. We trod gently from stretcher handle to stretcher handle over the silent men, some of them asleep with the blessed morphia in their brains, others cheerfully smiling, others staring as wounded men do. All who could move a hand had a cigarette — now admitted to be the first need of all but the very dangerously wounded...

HIS HONOUR CHRISTOPHER CUNLIFFE

His Honour Christopher Cunliffe, a Circuit Judge, and formerly a County Court Judge, 1966-82, died on September 23 aged 79. He was born on February 28, 1916.

CHRISTOPHER CUNLIFFE came from a strongly medical family. His father, who died when he was nine, was a consultant at Manchester Royal Infirmary. Two brothers, who like him went to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, were also doctors. So is one of his daughters. A sole legal influence was an uncle, Sir Herbert Cunliffe, one-time Unionist MP, Chancery silk and Attorney-General to the Duchy of Lancaster from 1921 to 1946, a model that drew him to the Bar, but to a very different type of work.

By nature absorbed in human drama, especially sorting out the emotions they generated, he centred his time at the Bar and on the Bench on

family issues, crime and a wide run of common law cases. He gave perhaps too much of himself to one-off cases, which may explain why, as a young head of a Liverpool chambers before moving to Sussex in 1968, he did not become a QC. Other interests were as a coroner, in mental health and for medico-legal work.

A formative spell had been a prewar year in North Borneo as a legal cadet, handing out palm-tree justice. This and wartime RAF intelligence work in India, created a lasting enthusiasm for the Far East.

Born in Manchester, after Rugby, he read Law at Cambridge, before taking a colonial posting, like many would-be barristers, aware of a potential shortage of briefs in the early phase of a highly competitive career. He had been called by Lincoln's Inn in 1938. In British North Borneo, then run by a trading com-

pany, at the age of only 23 he had virtual power of life-and-death in up-country cases.

He was desperate to enrol in 1940 but, with problems getting back to Europe, was about to sign papers for the Indian Army when a Dutch freighter took him home. He served in the RAFVR from 1941 to 1946. After training, he was posted to India where he assessed air reconnaissance reports. Later he was in the Judge Advocate General's Branch.

With the war over, he returned and joined the Northern Circuit, staying there for 20 years. He was made a circuit judge within a couple of years. He was very popular and it made him a lasting devotee of Circuit traditions. In 1947 he had joined a Merseyside seat headed by Melville Kerman, whom he replaced in 1958.

Cunliffe had already been a Liverpool deputy coroner from 1953, which he found fascinating, and chaired a National Insurance Tribunal in Bootle from 1956. In the late 1950s he was also a Tory councillor in Neston, Cheshire. From 1961 he chaired a Mental Health Review Tribunal in southwest Lancashire and west Cheshire.

Thus, he had his work cut out. It did not stop him acting to give every backing and steer work to new tenants, often prone to early exit from the Bar after opening discouragements. He was happy to put aside his own briefs to devote his energy to theirs.

A key case as a coroner was in 1964-65 after a fire at a big Liverpool department store in which several people died. Cunliffe made an impact as tribunal chair and in 1966 he made a County Court judge, acting also as a Commissioner in early, experimental Crown Courts in Liverpool and Manchester, only set up throughout the country in 1972.

In 1968, he moved to the South, with his family and took up County Court work in Hampshire and Sussex, often sitting at Chichester. He strongly involved himself in divorcees, especially the welfare of children and, as with mental health patients released from "sections", went out of his way to keep in touch and keep an eye on their future wellbeing. Impatience occasionally surfaced with solicitors, when barristers were badly briefed, and with the Lord Chancellor's Department, which was intervening increasingly often to control timetables and to take the choice of cases away from judges themselves.

That emerged again after 1982, when, having retired, he went back to help out with the caseload in Sussex, but rarely had much advance notice of where he was sitting. In the mid-1980s, he was also called over to Cyprus for a seven-week stint, hearing cases in the Sovereign Base Area after a local judge died.

By nature Cunliffe was a reconciler. Often in Sussex, he was in demand to advise, with a sagacious eye, on the problems of his neighbours. He was as happy chatting to them in a general way, often evoking his own fund of shaggy dog stories.

Golf, especially for the Bar Golfing Society, took him across the country to many courses and led to many friendships. In Liverpool, he was known for leaving court early to add lustre to his chipping, his speciality. His handicap, at one point, was an exceptional one. Only six months before he died, he scored a hole-in-one. Other passions were for gardening and photography, especially on safari in East Africa.

He is survived by a wife, Margaret, and two daughters, one of whom also went to Trinity Hall, giving him great satisfaction.

PERSONAL COLUMN

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

SPENCE - Jack C. passed away 4th October 1995 in Huddersfield, UK. Wife, children and grandchildren. The bereaved overwrought.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

RICHARDS - Mrs Miriam Richards and the family of the late Eliza Richards wish to express their thanks for the kind thoughts and sympathy received in their home and bereavement and for the generous donations to Autism Research. Please accept this as a personal acknowledgement.

LEGAL NOTICES

RAMSEY RAMSEY RAMSEY - In the High Court No. 80 of 1994. Notice is hereby given that I, G. Ramsey, of 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954,

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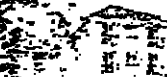
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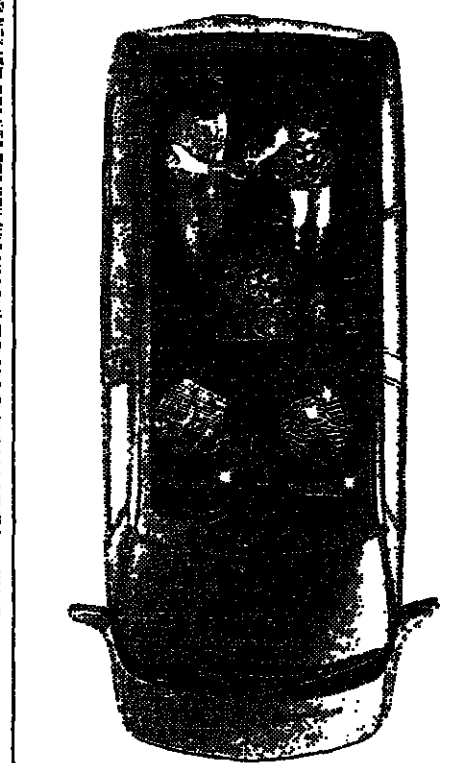


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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 4 1995

KPMG partners embrace plc status to avoid liability

By JON ASHWORTH

PARTNERS in KPMG have voted overwhelmingly to turn the firm's audit practice into a limited company, in a move that has profound implications for the wider UK accounting profession. KPMG Audit plc will take over the auditing of some 400 listed clients and 300 regulated clients. Its annual turnover will be about £100 million.

The move is designed to ring-fence individual partners from the threat of punitive legal action.

Partners — who will become known as audit directors — will no longer be personally liable, though the firm as a whole can still be sued.

Colin Sharman, UK senior partner, said the vote was a response to the massive rise in litigation against large accountancy firms. He added: "Firms often pick up the full cost of a company collapse despite being only partially responsible, and when the auditors themselves have been the subject of fraud and deceit. It is clear from the size of some of the largest claims that if one were to

succeed, it would wipe out a firm." KPMG Audit will take on only the largest — and hence potentially most dangerous — clients, leaving the auditing of about 1,500 smaller firms to the partnership. Mr Sharman will head a ten-strong board with Gerry Acher, who runs KPMG's audit arm. The company will have about 300 audit directors and will sub-contract staff from the firm as needed.

KPMG will publish full financial results for the firm as a whole. That will provide an intriguing insight

into salaries and profitability. Mr Sharman said: "Clients have a right to know the financial position of one of their key suppliers. We have nothing to hide, and we will hide nothing." Results for the year to September 30 will be published in January next year.

The move has the support of several notable audit clients. Lord Alexander of Weedon, chairman of NatWest, said: "A public company has the right to know the financial position of its bankers, and I see no reason why this should not be the

case for its auditors. Clearly, KPMG's decision to publish its full results will enable clients to evaluate their use of the firm based upon a full disclosure of its financial position." Lord Young of Graffham, head of Cable and Wireless, endorsed the decision.

Mr Sharman said that partial rather than total incorporation was right for KPMG "at this time", but would not rule out wider changes in the future. There are no plans to seek external financing for KPMG Audit, which will have an equity

base of £50 million. A stock market flotation is not envisaged. Independent auditors will be appointed in due course.

KPMG's rivals are divided about the merits of incorporation. Competitors, including Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhouse, are assessing the issue, which has tax and legal implications and raises concerns about the impact on the partnership ethos. Some question whether incorporation will work.

Pennington, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100	3524.2	(+4.0)
FT-SE All Share	1741.28	(+2.39)
Nikkei	18142.99	(+403.15)
Dow Jones	4726.70	(-24.58)
S&P Composite	580.16	(-1.58)

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	105 3/8%	(105 3/8%)
Yield	5.46%	(5.47%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 1/4%	(6 1/4%)
12-mth Interbank	10 1/2%	(10 1/2%)

STERLING

New York	1.5810*	(1.5800)
London	1.5817	(1.5812)
DM	2.2753	(2.2755)
FF	7.8510	(7.8480)
SFR	1.8331	(1.8295)
Yen	160.59	(160.27)
S Index	85.2	(85.2)

DOLLAR

London	1.4413*	(1.4285)
DM	4.9709*	(4.9268)
SFR	1.1608*	(1.1515)
Yen	101.59*	(100.38)
S Index	93.1	(92.7)

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Dec)	\$16.00	(\$16.00)
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GOLD

London close	\$392.35	(\$392.85)
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* denotes midday trading price.

Canary banks recover debts

By PATRICIA TEHAN

THE 12 banks that own Canary Wharf have recovered 95p in the pound of their debts in a £600 million deal to sell the Docklands development to a syndicate that includes Paul Reichmann, its original developer.

The sale values the total bank involvement at close to £800 million, but the European Investment Bank, which is owed £165 million, is staying in and replacing old facilities with new ones that will take the total to about £180 million.

The new owners, American and Middle Eastern investors calling themselves the International Property Corporation (IPC), will attempt to recover the investment with a flotation, probably in London. Other investors include Prince al-Waleed bin Talal, the Saudi Arabian investor; Larry Tisch, former head of CBS, the TV network; Edward Safra, a New York banker; and Michael Price, a US fund manager. They are using the promise of future riches to prevent the departure of key directors of Canary Wharf Ltd, the company that has been running the development, such as Sir Peter Levene, chairman and chief executive.

Sir Peter is the company's highest-paid director, receiving £536,316 in the year to October 31. He said last night that the new owners had asked him to stay on, adding: "I have no intention of leaving at the moment." He said the 300 staff and managers em-

ployed by Canary Wharf Ltd and its subsidiaries would be retained by the new owners.

The banks will receive 100 per cent repayment of £65 million new debt they took on when they rescued the project. They will receive about 90p in the pound repayment of the old debt on the balance sheet before the collapse.

Last October Canary Wharf said its bank loans totalled £770 million, including old debt of £572 million. But as interest has accrued, that figure has increased. Lloyds Bank led the banking syndicate that took over the Canary Wharf development after it went into administration in 1992. The other leading banks were Barclays, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Chemical Bank, Citibank, Commerzbank, Credit Lyonnais, Credit Suisse, the European Investment Bank, HSBC, Merill Lynch, National Bank of Canada, and Royal Bank of Canada.

In addition to repaying the banks, the new owners will provide working capital and will meet obligations to pay £300 million towards the cost of extending the London Underground Jubilee Line, which is scheduled to open in March 1998.

There will be no benefit for the former creditors of the development. The 1,100 unsecured creditors received payments totalling £14.7 million, or 15p in the pound. In addition, 130 of them provided warranties for their work for a further 25p in the pound or £7 million.

IPC has 60 days in which to complete its due diligence and the banks hope the sale will be finalised two weeks later and completed before the end of the year.

Sir Peter said there was one million square feet of space to let before the company started to think about restarting building.

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Reichmann's return, page 29

City Diary, page 29

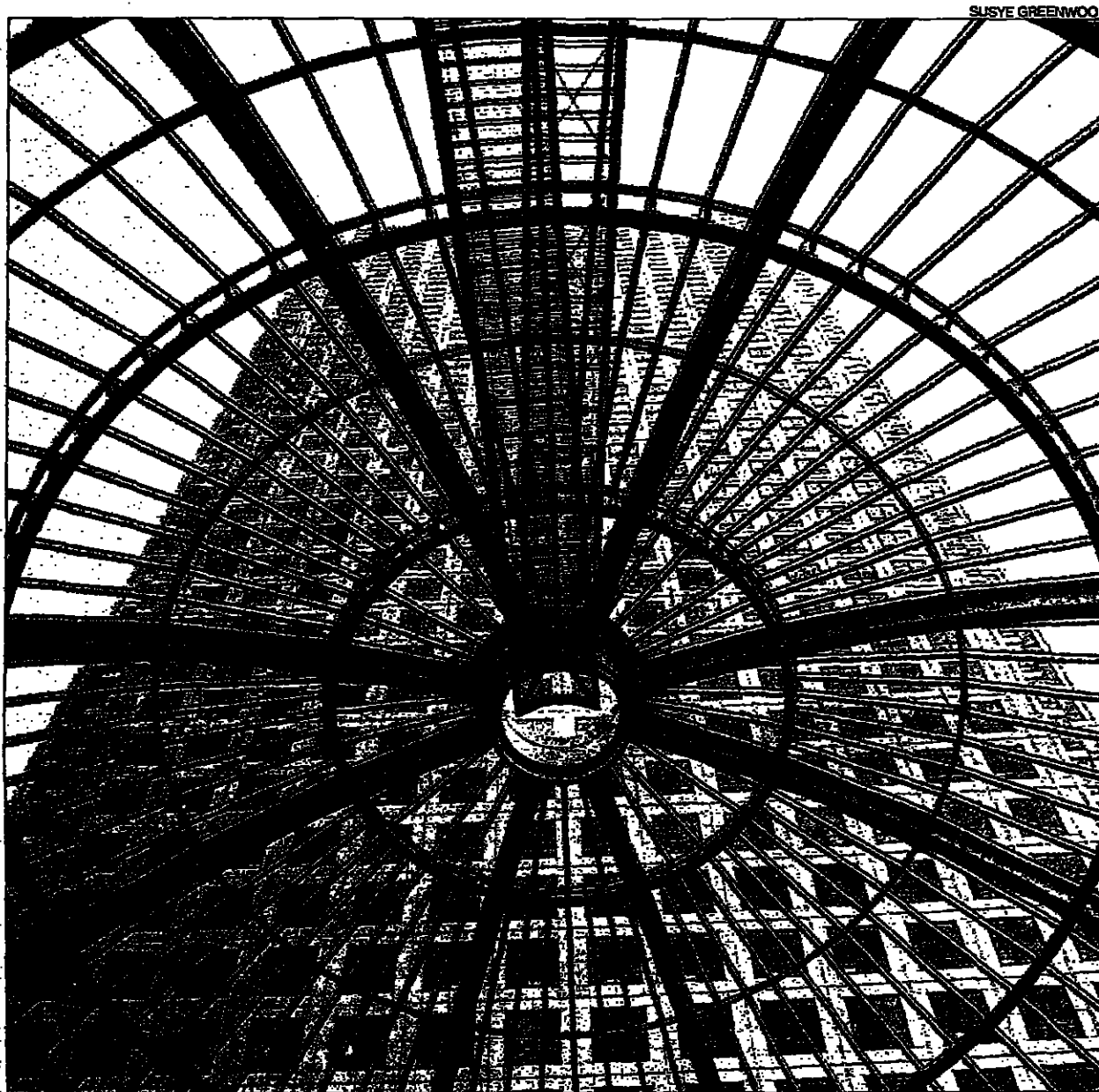
Big Blue plum for Compass

THE world's largest business and industry food-service account was yesterday won by Compass Group after IBM awarded it a national contract to provide food and vending services in the US (Christine Buckley writes).

More than 100,000 employees at 29 sites will be catered for by Compass, the UK-based company, which is the world's largest food-service provider.

The contract, for five years, will generate more than \$250 million in revenue. A management team dedicated to the IBM contract, which has yet to be formally signed, is to be installed in the US. Mike Bailey, president of Compass's US subsidiary, said: "Our reputation as a global food-service company played a major role in securing this account."

The two companies have wide experience of working together, with joint contracts in 10 other countries, including IBM sites in the UK.



High expectations: the sale of Canary Wharf should enable the 12 banks to recoup 95p in the pound of their debt

Texans raise bid in battle for Norweb

By ERIC REGULY

A FULL-SCALE takeover war for Norweb broke out yesterday when the two Texas companies that launched a white knight bid for the electricity company last week, only to see it trumped by North West Water, came back with a stronger offer.

Texas Energy Partners, comprising Houston Industries Inc and Central & South West Corp, raised its bid from £10.50 to £10.85 a share, made up of 88p in cash and a special dividend of 20p. The 3.3 per cent increase values Norweb at £1.74 billion.

North West's last offer was 107p, comprised of 97p in cash and a 10p special dividend. It also offered a cash alternative, based on North West's closing price of 590p, is valued at £1.05. North West said that it "will make an appropriate response in due course", although a spokes-

man described the Texan bid "as a very weak response". Norweb, evidently expecting higher bids to come, said it would not recommend either bid.

Analysts expect North West to return with an improved bid because the Texans' new offer is not high enough to be a knock-out blow. A new bid, if launched, will probably come next week.

Tom Shockley, co-chairman of Texas Energy Partners and executive vice-president of Central & South West, said "it certainly wouldn't surprise us" if North West returned with a counter bid. He said Norweb remains the Texans' only target, but there is speculation that it is lining up other targets in case Norweb goes to North West.

Five regional electricity companies — East Midlands, London Electricity, Yorkshire,

Seeboard and Swalec — have yet to receive bids. East Midlands, whose shares rose 10p to 87p, is thought to be courting an offer. Shares of London Electricity, which rose 55p to 920p on Monday, fell 23p yesterday in the absence of a bid.

Meanwhile, continued its effort to convince institutional shareholders to reject ScottishPower's £1.1 billion bid, worth 990p a share. ScottishPower said it bought more Manweb shares yesterday, and now holds 21.3 per cent of the company, excluding the bid's 6 per cent acceptance.

National Power, which on Monday announced a £2.8 billion agreed bid for Southern Electricity, said it now owns 3.8 per cent of Southern's shares.

Tempus, page 28

Housing market shows faint signs of life

Mortgage figures jump sharply

By JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

MORTGAGE figures yesterday provided the first sign that the housing market may be picking up at last.

There was a sharp jump in new mortgage commitments in August to the highest level since December. Commitments have proved to be a reliable indicator of housing market activity and prices and, unless August's leap in commitments turns out to be a temporary blip, the latest figures presage rising house prices by the end of this year.

The number of new commitments leapt to 79,000 from 71,000 in July, reversing a downward trend that has been in place

for months. Ian Shepherdson, UK economist with HSBC Markets, said that this was potentially the most significant piece of economic data for some time. He put the improvement down to the realisation during August that interest rates were not going to rise for the foreseeable future.

He noted that August's much healthier figures came before September's interest rate cuts by leading banks and building societies, which may help to bolster demand for mortgages into September.

It is, however, still premature to call an end to the housing market's woes. August's improvement came from a low level. Commitments were still down 2 per cent on the level seen in August last year.

However, a sense that potential

housebuyers may be becoming more confident appeared to be backed up by other figures showing that mortgage lending rose 0.3 per cent in August, an increase that in July, I secured on dwellings rose by up sharply from £911 million.

At the same time, consumer credit rose 0.5 per cent to £535 million — the smallest monthly increase.

Separate figures published by the Central Statistical Office showed that Britain's trade balance in July for the first time in 1995 was in surplus. Exports rose 0.5 per cent to £10.1 billion, while imports

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500 jobs to be created at Rosyth

Lexmark International, of Kentucky, is to create 500 full-time jobs at a £26 million plant on former Ministry of Defence land at Rosyth, Fife.

The plant will assemble colour and monochrome cartridges for the company's ink-jet printers. The project was secured against competition from other European locations.

Loans lift

Intermediate Capital Group, the mezzanine finance provider, forwarded total loans of £47 million (£36 million) to nine companies in the six months to July 31. Pre-tax profit was £10.5 million (£9.7 million pro forma) and earnings 14.9p (13.8p). Interim dividend is 4.3p (3.75p), due October 17.

Brewer joins

Shepherd Neame, the brewer, is to join the new Ofex share market. The company reported pre-tax profits up to £5.5 million (£5.1 million) and earnings of 62.9p (60.2p). The interim is 20.5p (19p).

Fashion slip

QS Holdings, the discount fashion retailer, had a pre-tax loss of £743,000 in the half-year to July 28 (£2.11 million profit). Losses were 1.26p a share (3.43p earnings). The interim is held at 1.56p. The shares fell 9p to 78p.

Oil switch

Enterprise Oil has lost its second senior executive to Hardy Oil & Gas. John van der Welle, group treasurer, will be Hardy's finance director.

Exco buy

EXCO, the money broker, is buying the German money and fixed-income securities broking division of Trio Holdings, German Group, for £5.3 million.



Geoffrey Halstead, left, managing director of James Halstead, and Stephen Knight, finance director. The floor coverings company reported year-end pre-tax profits increased 4.3 per cent to £10.32 million

BA on standby as hopes grow for USAir takeover

By MARIANNE CURPHEY AND RICHARD THOMSON

BRITISH AIRWAYS is looking to increase its presence in the US after two leading carriers, United and American, expressed an interest in acquiring USAir, in which BA has a 25 per cent stake.

BA has been attempting to increase its options for code-sharing within the US and may decide to hold on to its stake in USAir in the hope of forming a partnership with USAir's new owner. Altern-

tively, it could sell its shares and forge a new deal with one of the American carriers. Yesterday's announcement sent BA shares up 20p to 472p.

USAir said that the discussions were still at a preliminary stage and could give no indication of whether it would continue to operate as an independent entity.

A takeover of USAir by either United or American would create the largest air

carrier group in the US and the most powerful internationally.

The stock market regarded a bid for USAir as a potentially profitable way for BA to extricate itself from the unprofitable investment it bought two years ago. USAir has lost \$3 billion over the last five years, forcing BA to write down its \$400m holding by about half last May.

USAir could fetch about \$7

billion from a merger. BA, meanwhile, said the talks had been undertaken with its knowledge and that they could include the acquisition of USAir by one or other of the two airlines.

It said in a statement: "We have frequently predicted further consolidation of the US airline industry. The US is an essential part of our global strategy and this development could provide an opportunity to develop that strategy further."

The initial approach to USAir was believed to have come from Gerald Greenwald, the new chairman of United Airlines. United, however, is owned by its employees, which might make negotiations unwieldy.

United confirmed it was evaluating USAir's business, but said it would take several weeks. AMR, which owns American, declined to comment.

Extreme rivalry between United and American would ensure any successful bidder would be made to pay a full price for USAir.

BA has said the operational benefits of its alliance with USAir, such as linking route networks, has been generating some £70 million a year in extra operating profits.

Alliance Resources sues former chief

By MARTIN BARROW

ALLIANCE RESOURCES, the oil exploration company, has launched a High Court action against its former chief executive John O'Brien, claiming damages for fraudulent misrepresentation, fraud, deceit and breach of his service contract.

The action also seeks reimbursement of all sums taken in breach of duty or trust, together with interest and costs. Last month the company obtained an injunction freezing Mr O'Brien's assets.

The Serious Fraud Office is conducting its own investigation into alleged irregularities concerning Mr O'Brien's activities at Alliance.

The company claimed yesterday that Mr O'Brien had "concealed and misrepresented" the true status of a well in the Valentine field, south of New Orleans, described a year ago as "a significant gas discovery". The company said the well was never capable of producing commercially.

Alliance also alleges Mr O'Brien forged a letter purporting to grant an extension from the lessor of undeveloped acreage in the same field after the company failed to abide by a commitment to drill one well every 110 days. Mr O'Brien allegedly concealed a notice of forfeiture issued in March but not discovered by other directors until August.

ICS mis-selling move

THE Investors Compensation Scheme resumed its high court battle with Cheltenham & Gloucester over payments to elderly investors mis-sold home income plans. The scheme told Mr Justice Evans-Lombe it had asked 270 investors to "assign" their rights to ICS so it could pursue other parties to rescope compensation payments. In C&G's case this was for £6 million-worth of payments to investors who took out plans through Aylesbury Associates. C&G provided the mortgage funding but denies it was responsible for selling the plans.

Leyland plants reunited

THREE plants previously owned by British Leyland are to be reunited under a single management. Albion Automotive, the truck parts maker rescued from the collapsed Leyland DAF business, and which has plants in Glasgow and Lancashire, is to buy Farrington Components, once part of Leyland Bus, at Leyland, Lancashire, from Volvo. The deal will bring total employment within the Albion group to 1,160 and take annual sales to around £70 million. New contracts from Volvo will allow Albion to widen its product range.

Bloomsbury slides

BLOOMSBURY PUBLISHING, the book publisher, blamed a reported pre-tax loss of £391,000 for the six months to July 30 (£748,000 loss) on "seasonality" in the business. Nigel Newton, chairman, said despite tough trading conditions in the UK the gross profit margin was increased by 7.8 per cent to 41 per cent, and there were five bestsellers during the period, including Joanna Trollope's *The Best of Friends*. Turnover was £3.08 million (£3.13 million) and the loss per share was 4.55p (6.02p loss). The interim dividend is 0.68p (net) per share.

Silentnight setback

SILENTNIGHT HOLDINGS, the UK's largest manufacturer of beds, suffered a downturn in pre-tax profits to £3.7 million from £4.1 million in the six months to July 29 and warned investors that no improvement in consumer demand had emerged. The company, which also makes cabinet furniture, is maintaining the interim dividend at 2.75p a share after a decline in earnings to 5.22p from 5.84p. Bill Simpson, chief executive, said the disappointing result was influenced by increases in raw material costs. The shares fell 9p to 193p.

BT sets out accounts for Ofel

By ERIC REGULY

BT published its first set of segregated accounts yesterday in an effort to prove it is charging fair prices to rival operators to complete calls on its network.

Ofel, the telecommunications regulator, did not immediately dispute the figures but said the accounts still lacked sufficient detail. "We're naturally disappointed," an Ofel accountant said.

It has asked BT to provide a better breakdown on its so-

called interconnection charges and also wants the statements independently audited. The accounts were delivered unadvised because BT, which had never gone through such an exercise before, was pressed for time.

Ofel asked for segregated accounts to find out whether BT was unfairly cross-subsidising its businesses and to determine what competitors such as Mercury should pay BT in the year 1996/97.

BT said it expects the charges to decline next year. Mercury had no comment.

BT calculated that it cost £4.84 billion in the last financial year to operate its domestic telecoms network — £3.95 billion plus the 15 per cent return on capital mandated by Ofel. BT also said it lost £400 million providing access to its residential customers.

Contributions from competitors — access deficit charges — subsidise that loss.

Belling 'duped for £3.5m in loan fraud'

By ROBERT MILLER

BELLING, the company famed among generations of students for its Baby Belling cooker, was duped into handing over a £3.5 million fee from the firm's pension fund to a "trusted" solicitor in return for a £50 million loan. Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court heard yesterday.

The cash-strapped company never saw the money and went into receivership in 1992. The £3.5 million has been kept in a separate client account by Charles Dickson, 52, a solicitor. John Goldring QC, for the Serious Fraud Office, said: He added

that the Belling fee was sent abroad and was part of an international £12 million advanced-fee fraud. This involved offering a large loan in return for advance payments of one-year's interest.

Mr Deacon and co-defendant James Fuller, 56, have denied 11 charges of deception, conspiracy to defraud and theft between June 1990 and July 1992.

Mr Goldring said the defendants were "accomplished liars" who used bogus letters from the then US President, George Bush, and others. The case continues.

Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia S	2.19	2.03
Austria Sch	16.89	16.48
Belgium F	40.09	40.36
Canada C	2.293	2.078
Cyprus Cyp	0.738	0.701
Denmark K	8.42	8.82
Finland Mk	7.58	8.73
France F	8.54	7.59
Germany Dm	2.43	2.22
Greece Dr	385.00	380.00
Hong Kong S	12.82	11.82
Ireland P	1.03	0.95
Israel Sh	5.777	4.077
Italy Lira	289.00	281.00
Japan Yen	173.50	167.50
Norway Kr	5.29	5.846
Netherlands Gld	2.56	2.34
New Zealand S	10.57	9.77
Portugal Esc	244.50	280.00
Spain Ptas	202.63	189.50
Sweden Kr	11.73	10.53
Switzerland Fr	1.96	1.78
Turkey Lira	7.000	7.000
USA \$	1.885	1.855

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Tempos, page 28

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Reichmann's limited role in rescue □ Bid deadline nears for RPR □ Accountants play safe

A Canary sang in Cabot Square

IF Paul Reichmann's financial collapse in 1992 only confirmed the old adage that pioneers are people with arrows in their backs, then he has made a remarkable recovery from his wounds. Most such failed entrepreneurs have to watch bitterly from the sidelines as their creations are steered to financial success by others. Mr Reichmann has emerged at the head of the rescue team.

That said, his as yet undisclosed involvement in the International Property Consortium is slight, backed by an equity stake of less than 5 per cent. The disintegration of Olympia & York, and the resulting foundering of the family fortunes, mean the Reichmanns no longer dine at the same table as the likes of Larry Tisch and Prince al-Waleed bin Talal.

The party line is that the involvement of Reichmann, the architect of Reichmann's Poly and intimately acquainted with every brick, tile and shingle, is crucial to the success of the rescue. As for Reichmann, not so. Reichmann initially approached the prince in the summer of 1994 suggesting a joint bid and was rebuffed. A year later the two were talking again. Reichmann was teamed up with old pals Tisch and Michael Price and all they needed was a supply of serious finance.

A Saudi prince is not born without means, but the prince's investment in Citibank in the early years of this decade provided him with a windfall that outstripped his early wealth. He has since gone on to rescue Euro Disneyland and see his investment in yet another putative white elephant virtually double, while he had the good sense to turn down Eurotunnel.

The prince is a man who has not yet put a foot wrong. His day-to-day involvement at Canary Wharf is likely to be as great as at Citibank and Euro Disneyland, i.e. nil. The likes of Tisch, Price and the New York moneyman Edward Saffra will be in the driving seat, with Sir Peter Levene as their London lieutenant if they will have him and terms can be agreed.

The banks have fully justified their collective decision to keep their nerve and reject some of the cheeky offers being made a couple of years back. Even the keenness of some of the British contingent today to hang on in there and wait for full restitution looks understandable, given the project's prospects a few years

down the line. The rescuers may have pledged to pay for some of the cost of extending the Jubilee Line out to Docklands, but that cost will repay itself in spades. The tube extension is the key to the development's future, linking the south London terminus of Waterloo and London Bridge to Canary Wharf and making the area accessible to a huge swathe of commuters in the south — and so to their employers.

Add this to a couple more years of recovery in the London office market, and it is clear that it will no longer be a folly. But it will no longer be Paul Reichmann's, either.

Sweetening the pill at Fisons

IF AND when Rhône-Poulenc Rorer decides to up its offer for Fisons and clinch the deal, then the company's long-suffering shareholders should offer a toast of thanks to Stuart Wallis, the chief executive. His defence has been a classic case of winning the game on a handful of deuces.

Every 10p a share from RPR



would put an extra £70 million into the pockets of those shareholders, without much solid justification for the rise from Fisons' defence strategy. The company's woes, which pre-date the 1992 departure of its main architect, John Kerridge, were well on the way to being corrected by Mr Wallis, but there has been little in that strategy to suggest Fisons has a glittering future on its own. He has boosted profits by cutting research and development costs, the ultimate short-term fix for a pharmaceutical company, while pinning his hopes on joint ventures that will take years to pull in the earnings.

Two thirds of the laboratory supplies business has been sold,

but the scientific instruments disposal has hit a predictable delay. While Fisons has been talking to possible white knights, none has yet emerged. Any serious rival bidder would in any case wait for the best shot from RPR.

The latter, 68 per cent owned by the French Rhône-Poulenc, has until Friday to make up its mind, so a raised bid would have to come today or tomorrow. French businesses have a rotten record on contested takeover bids in Britain, although they are rather better at acquisition by stealth. Indications from the RPR camp are that the French, with board seats but no overall control, and the American management are split on what to do next, with the Americans in favour of a knock-out blow.

Fisons' institutional shareholders, 20 of whom hold 70 per cent of the company, would at one stage probably have taken the 240p cash already on offer, however grudgingly, given the tatty state of the stock market. But they have by now been well primed for an increase. A price of 260p would leave the matter in

the balance. Too much more, and the limited acceptances so far would turn into an embarrassing stampede.

KPMG's limited liability

□ VAST professional firms such as KPMG, which has about 600 partners, have for years been run much more like a conventional hierarchical company than the theoretical partnership of equals. The benefits of partnership are now largely tax-related rather than operational.

In audit and due diligence work, however, the lack of limited liability protection has become too much of a threat to some junior partners. They could be wiped out — or so their building societies might fear — by Anglo-Saxon big ticket lawsuits. In event of loss, these are aimed at deep-pocket accountants, rather than the prime corporate culprits, to take advantage of the strange legal principle of joint and several liability.

Accountants have gradually realised that no government is

likely to make the parliamentary effort to give legal relief to a profession that does not naturally attract public compassion. So KPMG has done its own thing, using a facility already granted to help firms expand more easily in a dynamic modern way. In the four fifths of the business still relatively immune from the terror of the lawsuit, KPMG will stick with the undynamic old tax benefits of partnership.

Others will doubtless follow suit, starting a debate on whether a capital of £50 million is really enough. Public accountability will also be improved when big accountants start publishing their own accounts, a step that they, like other private businesses exposing themselves to hostile sunlight, will almost certainly live to regret.

Soft landings

□ BAT is amassing an increasingly rum selection of non-executives. Lord Cairns, out of the debris of the House of Warburg, was named chairman-designate in the summer. Now arriving are Rosalind Gilmore, decidedly downwardly mobile after quitting the regulatory overhaul of Lloyd's, and Rupert Pennant-Rea, in only his second City job since being forced out of the Bank of England.

Slump forces Ibstock to make lay-offs

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

BRICK workers are to be laid off and production scaled down at Ibstock. The UK's second-largest brickmaker, after Hanson, faces a slump in demand after it bought Tarmac's clay brick and paving stone business.

The lay-offs are scheduled to begin at Christmas and could last for a month at some, or all, of Ibstock's 22 sites. Ian Maclellan, managing director, would not rule out permanent job losses, but said he hoped the round of lay-offs would be temporary. He said he hoped full production would resume some time in January or February.

The move has been triggered by a slump in second-hand demand with like-for-like volume deliveries down 10 to 15 per cent over the three months since the end of June. The decline began in May when like-for-like sales retreated 7 per cent, Mr Maclellan said.

The company blamed the weak state of the housing market, although it saw some cause for optimism in the steady demand in the US.

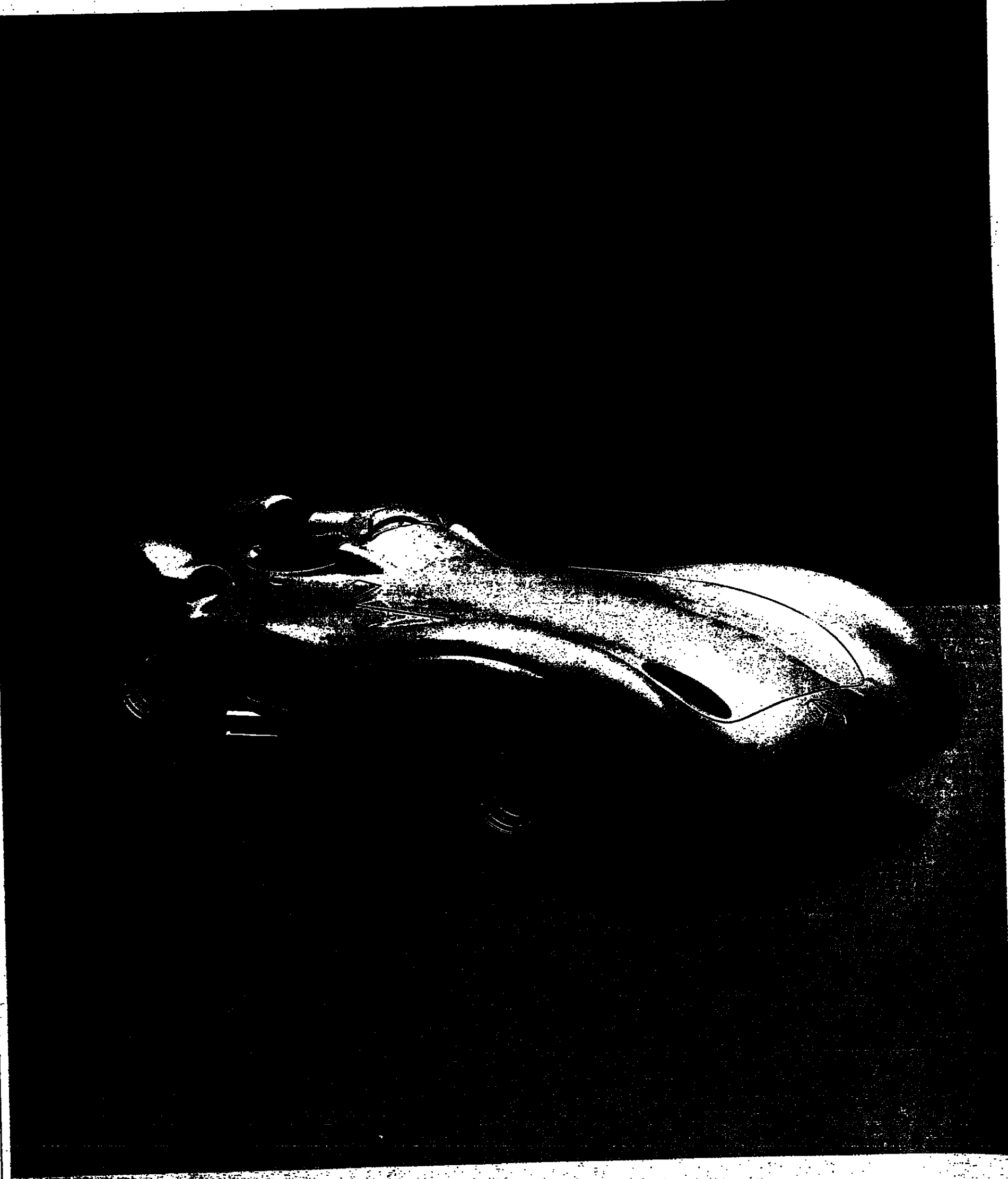
Some of the lay-offs will also be necessitated by cost-cutting

operations in the merging of Ibstock's production with the Tarmac plants, which have so far led to 40 lost jobs. The company has said it hopes to achieve overhead savings of £2.5 million after the £70 million purchase of the Tarmac operation, which has taken its share of the UK brick business to 20 per cent.

The lay-offs were revealed after Ibstock announced a threefold increase in interim pre-tax profits after new techniques and the fruits of capital investment began to feed through. Profits for the six months to June 30 jumped from £4.4 million to £14 million. The Tarmac division, purchased at the beginning of June, has yet to contribute to the figures.

Ibstock, which runs a large pulp operation, also saw the operating profits of forest products increase fourfold to £6.14 million on sales up 59 per cent. No progress has been made on the sale of its 56 per cent stake in Cairns, the pulp manufacturer. The interim, payable December 1, was raised 50 per cent to 0.75p.

Times, page 28



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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Alarm bells for C&W as break-up talk grows

TALK of a possible break-up bid for Cable and Wireless, the Mercury telephone operator, continues to do the rounds in the Square Mile.

Word is this time that Craig McCaw, the man who founded McCaw Telecommunications, now part of American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T), wants to establish himself in the British mobile phone market. A report in a specialist publication claims he has already taken a close look at C&W and might consider linking up with BT in bid.

C&W's mobile phone operations would prove a stumbling block to any move by BT, unless it could find a buyer beforehand. AT&T might just fit the bill. Cable and Wireless shares closed 2p to 430p and BT was 1 1/2p easier at 365p.

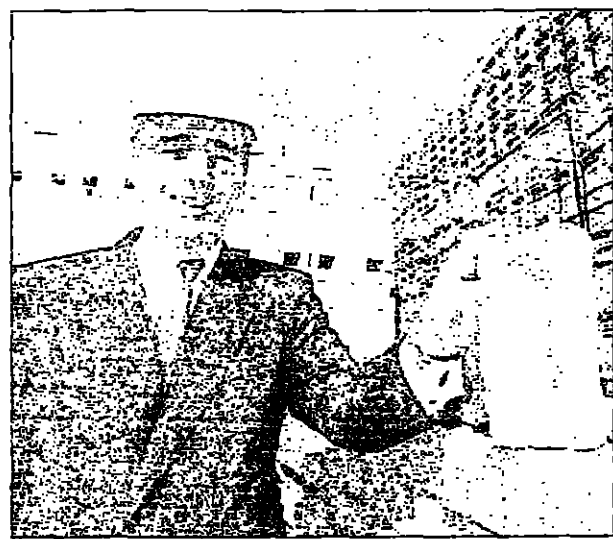
The rest of the equity market managed to hold its head above water, but only just. An early rise of 11.4 points was more than halved by an opening fall of almost 30 points in the Dow Jones average on Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index managed to cling on in thin trading, ending with a rise of 4.0 points at 3,524.2. A total of 693 million shares were traded.

Once again the utilities took up a lot of investor attention. Norweb firming 5p to 510.87 as the US consortium Houston Industries, which includes Houston Industries and CSW International, topped the recently improved offer from North West Water.

The new terms value Norweb at £10.85, just 10p more than that tabled by North West Water. Norweb will not agree to either bid. Manweb was steady at 992p with Scottish Power, down 3p at 348p, claiming 21.5 per cent of the shares.

ICI rose 12p to 820p following a recommendation by UBS, the broker. BOC also jumped 19p to 810p, helped by a recommendation from Smith New Court, the broker. BSKYB stood out among the top 100 companies, breaching the £4 level with a rise of 10p to 406p as more than 10 million shares changed hands. It has enjoyed unrivalled institutional support since becoming a constituent of the top 100 and, according to a number of brokers, may still have some way to run.

Only last month Granada sold its 10 per cent stake in BSKYB at 350p a share. The



Profits rise for Istock managing director Ian Maclellan

company is enjoying the benefit of increased revenue in both advertising and new subscribers and should enjoy a further boost from imminent new subscription charges.

Meanwhile, Granada has scotched recent rumours that Gerry Robinson, chief executive, is about to step down in order to take up a board appointment with Grand Met-

American, the US airlines. BA has a 25 per cent stake in USAir, which was written down on the books by 50 per cent earlier this year.

Brokers reckon that BA will benefit from any link up between USAir and United and American, giving it the opportunity to increase its penetration of the fiercely competitive American domes-

Winterflood Securities, the broker, was a big buyer of Aromascan as the shares rose 4p to a new high of 97p. It comes after news of a large contract with Kirin, the Japanese brewer, worth almost £4 million over the next three years. Peel Hunt, the broker, is now taking the group on a tour of institutions.

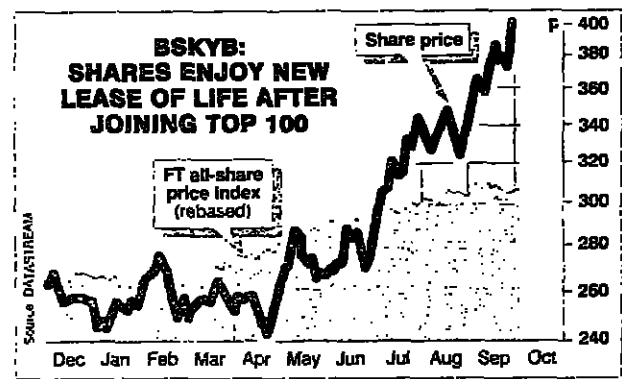
republican. He is to take over as chairman of Granada from Alex Bernstein when he retires in March, next year. Charles Allen, head of Granada's television operation, takes over as chief executive. Granada responded with a rise of 7p to 647p.

British Airways climbed 20p to 472p on the news that USAir, its troubled associate, was in talks with United and

tic airline market.

News of further restructuring at its Harrods division saw Harrison's & Crossfield touch 145p before settling 1p cheaper at 152p. The expense of reducing costs and eliminating loss-making branches is expected to result in one-off charges of £3.5 million. This is in addition to charges of £1.5 million already announced.

Istock, the brickmaker,



BSKYB: SHARES ENJOY NEW LEASE OF LIFE AFTER JOINING TOP 100

firmed 1p to 72p as pre-tax profits in the first six months surged from £4.3 million to £14.5 million.

Manchester United may be struggling to find last year's form, but it is streets ahead of the opposition when it comes to the balance sheet.

Pre-tax profits last year soared from £11.5 million to £16.25 million. This was before taking into account profits of £4 million from the transfers of the likes of Paul Ince and compared with a loss of £700,000 the previous year. Profit-taking left the shares 7p lower at 204p.

Eurocom, the specialist publisher and conference organiser, was the day's biggest casualty, tumbling 21 1/2p to £10.85 after issuing a profits warning. The group has forecast that profits are set to tumble by £6 million from last year's £24 million. The warning also left Daily Mail Trust 19p lower at £12.65 and the 'A' shares 3 1/2p at £10.68. The Daily Mail owns 70 per cent of Eurocom.

Shares of Bullers, the moulded giftware group, were suspended at 1 1/2p at the company's request pending clarification of its financial position.

On GILT-EDGED: Prices were marked lower in early trading reflecting the absence of the German bond market, which was closed for Unity Day. An absence of buyers enabled prices to claw back some of the earlier losses. Those were eventually wiped out with the help of a firmer US bond market and some depressed chain store sales. Brokers reported a switching out of mediums and into the shorter and longer end of the markets, which are unlikely to be hindered by gilt auctions during the few weeks.

In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt finished £7 1/2 better at £106 1/2 in trading which saw just 46,000 contracts traded.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2013 rose £7 1/2 to 597 1/2, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 finished £7 1/2 better at £102 1/2.

On NEW YORK: Shares on Wall Street fell further in morning trading, under continued pressure from growing fears that third quarter earnings may not meet expectations. The Dow Jones industrial average at midday was down 24.56 points at 4,736.70.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 4736.70 (-24.56)
S&P Composite 590.10 (-1.58)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 18142.99 (+403.19)
Dai Nippon 1800.46 (+80.46)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 9805.46 (+80.46)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 462.90 (+1.32)
AEX 111.51 (+0.01)

Sydney:
All Ordinaries 2132.0 (-5.7)

Frankfurt:
DAX 100 1000.00 (-10.00)

Singapore:
Straits 2110.40 (-0.79)

Brussels:
General 2901.00 (+19.86)

Paris:
CAC 40 1860.70 (+10.94)

Zurich:
SIX 694.60 (+0.60)

London:
FT 100 2613.7 (-6.2)
FT 100 Mid 250 2524.2 (-4.0)
FT 100 All-Share 2598.6 (-9.7)
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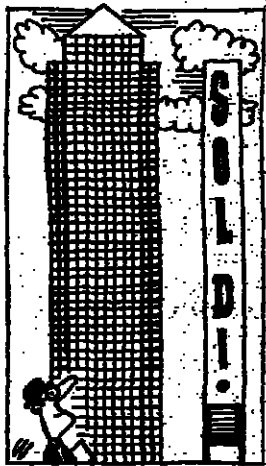
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Canary rushed into flight

AN AIR of urgency hung over the legal firm of Allen & Overy on Monday night. Time-pressed lawyers pored over the Canary Wharf/Reichmann documents anxiously racing the office clock. Had their legal pens not scribbled the Canary Wharf deal by midnight, then negotiations that have long been tortuous could have been set back by at least a week. Because Commerzbank, as just one German lender, was anxious to head home in time to join in yesterday's tag der Deutschen einheit celebrations marking the fifth year of German unity. And the orthodox Reichmanns were anxious for the deal to be signed before Yom Kippur today. They finally managed to put pen to paper at 11pm.

For partners?

A PERFORMANCE of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, featuring Welsh National Opera soloists and the KPMG chorus of auditors, tax experts and secretaries, which was arranged for the City's Stationers Hall last week as part of the firm's national opera sponsorship, has been hijacked to celebrate KPMG's decision to convert auditing partners into a limited company. In the original, Dido kills herself after being deserted by her partner. I trust everybody has a jolly nice evening.



Farm fright

FANS of *The Archers* should not jam Radio 4's switchboard, even though Touche Ross, the accountancy, has announced that receivers are offering for sale as a going concern Brookfield Farms Limited. That's a dealer in frozen foods near Lancaster — not Phil Archer's farm in Ambridge.

Number one

I ADMIRE the spirit of Waldemar Schmidt, who has taken over from Paul Andriessen as group president of ISS, the world's biggest contract cleaners and official char to the Bank of England. Andriessen's royal blue company Jaguar sported the number plate ISS 1. Schmidt, also driving a Jaguar, has adopted the number plate PBT 9. Saying it with numbers, that stands for profit-before-tax 9 per cent.

Divided house

FISONS thinks Rhône-Poulenc Rorer, whose hostile £1.7 billion bid for Fisons expires on Friday, should read the Bible most closely, particularly St Mark 3:25. "If a house be divided against itself..." Fisons is referring to the fact that Mary Tanner, the Lehman Brothers banker who is advising RPR, appears to have a different view about Fisons's strategy than her husband, Fred Frank, who is Lehman's head of investment banking for the pharmaceuticals sector. In a recent article, he said a drugs company that sheds its research arm, as Fisons has, may actually be doing the right thing. Tanner's team, meanwhile, has argued that Fisons has a questionable future without research capability and therefore should team up with RPR.

COLIN CAMPBELL



Softer approach: Jacques Santer, the EC President, in a speech to the TUC, spells out an explicit new deal for Britain over social issues

Industry keeps watch on the smoke signals from Brussels

The political temperature has cooled but change is still afoot, says Philip Bassett

Back in the days when Michael Portillo and Howard Butler ranted against Europe's job policies, each meeting of the EU's Social Affairs Council was a pitched battle: doughty Britain up against Johnny Foreigner. Council meetings these days, including tomorrow's in Brussels, are quieter affairs — yet oddly enough, their impact on UK business is, if anything, greater than in the rant and rave days.

The softer line over Europe, which British business welcomes, is exemplified in the replacement of Jacques Delors as European Commission President by Jacques Santer. For M Delors, social action was one of the central components of his vision of an integrated Europe. But in his speech to the TUC conference a fortnight ago, M Santer set out an explicit new deal for Britain over social issues: drop the Maastricht treaty social chapter opt-out at next year's intergovernmental conference, and we will legislate less, and police compliance more — two long-running key demands from the UK.

Whether that, and further pressure and concessions to come on the opt-out, will be enough for Britain will be a matter for high post-Maastricht politics next year. At that level, UK business is sweating with how far it favours full economic and monetary union; but in the meantime, British industry has to get to grips with what is continuing to come out of Brussels on jobs, employment and social policy.

Tomorrow's Social Affairs Council is the first since Spain took over the presidency of the EU. Spain's own announced focus for its six-month term is on economic revival across Europe, with social policy — and especially job creation — as a key aspect of that.

Its social priorities include putting into effect the Commission's third social action programme, including legislative measures on pension equality, professional qualifications and migrant workers — though overall, the shape of the third programme is less legislatively

prescriptive than the social action plans pursued by M Delors.

UK Conservatives, and especially the Euro-sceptics, will find all this a bit rich. For them, to be guided on employment issues by Spain, which has the highest unemployment rate in the EU at 22 per cent, is laughable. Eurosceptics like to point out that while Spain is advocating further social regulation across Europe, in its own country it is deregulating as fast as it can, to try to bring its own unemployment down — with some effect, since Spain's unemployment rate has dropped two full percentage points over the past year.

Employment across Europe provides the continuing context for the EU's social drive. EU unemployment is steady, at a seasonally adjusted rate of 10.7 per cent, according to EU Eurostat figures — though this is down a half point on the level a year ago. Unemployment in particular is falling not just in Spain, but in Italy, France, and of course in the UK.

But the Commission's target, detailed in M Delors's competitiveness white paper, of halving current European unemployment by the year 2000 still looks tough to reach. Padraig Flynn, the EU Social Affairs Commissioner, says the job market across Europe is likely to remain stagnant for the next two years, with unemployment set to fall by about 1 per cent.

In the UK, such estimates simply spur on the Government to strengthen its policy of labour market deregulation, which it claims has led directly to Britain's low labour costs. The most recently available figures for labour costs from 1994 show western Germany heading the list, with average hourly costs in manufacturing of £19.80. Switzerland, Belgium and Nor-

way follow. At £9.93, Britain is both well below the EU average of £12.65, and beaten only by Spain (£9.11), Greece (£5.48) and Portugal (£4.13).

UK ministers will be disappointed, though hardly surprised, that tomorrow's meeting of the Social Affairs Council — where Britain will be represented by Eric Forth, Minister of State at the Department for Education and Employment — will address few issues which they judge will have much impact on Europe's high labour costs.

Among the items the council is expected to consider are: **■** Inequalities of women. Spain is pushing hard on this, and wants approval for a draft resolution to combat the stereotyping of women in the media. Other items include: **■** Racism. Though the EU's remit does not extend to cover this area, the council will examine it, after an initiative by France and Germany. **■** Older people. Germany is blocking a draft resolution on older people, arguing this too is not within the remit of the Council of Ministers.

As well as Mr Flynn giving a report on the controversial UN conference on women in Peking, Spain will propose implementing without delay the EU's fourth equal opportunity programme, which will run for four years from 1996 at double the funding levels of previous programmes. It will require equality issues to be taken fully into account in all member state policy decisions. **■** Social exclusion. Both the UK and Germany are opposing the EU's draft programme of measures to help the so-called underclass.

Business will be largely unimpressed, at least immediately, by such moves — though the equal opportunities pro-

gramme will probably be judged to have considerable cost implications. But that isn't to say social Europe is now a quiet backwater for British business. A raft of legislation is still moving through the Brussels machinery in ways that will affect the way British industry operates.

In spite of the UK social chapter opt-out, many UK companies are already introducing European-style works councils in advance of the trigger point for doing so across the other 14 EU member states next September.

The adoption of works councils by companies such as Coats Viyella and United Biscuits in spite of the political opt-out is an illustration of the gap between the ideology of politics and the practicalities of business — industry has to get on with things even if the politicians do not want it to.

Industry is also listening to the debate on social policies that the UK Government opposes and need not adopt because of the social chapter opt-out, but which, like works councils, may affect British businesses anyway. Among them are the directive on equal treatment of part-time workers; a draft directive to give three months' leave entitlement to both parents after the birth or adoption of a child; and a draft directive to put the onus on employers to prove their innocence when sex or race discrimination is alleged.

Other governments oppose some of the measures too. Even so, this programme shows that in spite of its quieter presence, social Europe is still a key factor that business needs to take into account. Sound and fury against Europe will be revisited next week in Blackpool, but as sweetness and light in favour of Europe is washing around Brighton this week, but as the moves by UK companies to establish works councils show, though the political temperature over social Europe may have cooled, the practical problems mean that British industry will still be carefully scanning the smoke signals coming out of Brussels tomorrow.



ANTHONY HARRIS

The unbearable lightness of forecasting

Is it déjà vu all over again? Before we get down to cases, two familiar thoughts. "Those who cannot learn from the past are destined to repeat it," and: "History never quite repeats itself." Chiches, but only because there is much truth in them; and if there wasn't, economic gurus would have to shut up shop. They are basic equipment: an example from the past to make a forecast plausible, a description of how it will be different this time makes it look subtle. The trick, of course, is to pick the right bit of the past.

Which brings us to the Stephens-Warburton affair. Philip Stephens is a house guru of the *Financial Times*, once economic, more recently political, but a bit of both. Peter Warburton is Robert Fleming's gloomy chief economist. Recently Stephens warned the Chancellor not to repeat the history of Nigel Lawson in 1986, and over-stimulate the economy as it is due to recover. Now Warburton has issued his own warning: don't believe it. Stephens's choice of 1986 is, as he rather huffily puts it, "a most inappropriate analogy." Try 1990.

The FT view does look a bit pink-tinted. "Both government and business have rebuilt their balance sheets," Stephens wrote. Business, yes; but government, as borrowing rises? And what about the overstretched personal sector? "Growth in the rest of the world is picking up." Growth forecasts, yes; but the real thing? "The feel-good factor will re-emerge." But feeling bad is not just a British disease; it embraces nearly the whole of the developed world. The forecast could still prove good; it matches the consensus. But as current description, it looks wishful.

The 1990 parallel gives Warburton's blue-tinted view. Now as then, policy is constrained by thoughts of European convergence, and is deflationary. Trends in retail sales, stockbuilding and real rates are horribly like those five and a half years ago. And so is the forecasting consensus. Only Warburton, I think,

could find an optimistic consensus cause for gloom; but that consensus is based, now as then, on an unexplained consumer spending surge, which looks more wishful than scientific.

Indeed, Warburton's figures are not as alarming as his warning against wishful thinking; for it seems to be endemic at the moment. Only wishful forecasts, for example, can make any sense of German insistence that EMU will still start on schedule, and on Bundesbank terms. The same goes for President Chirac's promises on job creation and — as Anatole Kaletsky argued yesterday — for Gordon Brown's. And professional economists are not immune: his circulars in my own postbag are full of fantasy. Two examples: "The British balance of payments is sound"; "Investment will rise strongly in 1996". And the same goes for Professor Robin Marris's discovery that green growth will solve all our problems. Just like that.

All this suggests that reality is becoming unbearable; whereas the truth is that it is simply uncomfortable. Is EMU a solution? Politically, it looks more like a problem. Does devaluation work better? Only conditionally. The current weakness of UK exports is against all forecasts, and the US is also finding export-led growth unexpectedly faltering. And does growth abolish poverty? The US may have only 5 per cent unemployment, but it also keeps 2 per cent of the male working population in jail.

For the truth about export-led growth, try Brian Reading: he argues the developed world is becoming rather dependent on demand from the less developed. Professor Patrick Minford explains that third world investment demand is draining both capital and jobs from the developed world, explaining both social stress and high real rates. These men are not consensus thinkers. But realistic analysis looks a better guide than wishfully bright, or even wishfully gloomy, forecasts.

Jon Ashworth on Canary Wharf's odd couple

Return of Reichmann puts the shoe on the other foot

Folklore has it that every time Paul Reichmann does a deal, he goes out and buys himself a pair of shoes. Observers quip that his wardrobe must be well and truly down at heel after the tribulations of the past few years.

Mr Reichmann, 65, has stamped his mark on some of the world's most ambitious property developments, but little is known about the man who is back on the scene at Canary Wharf. Those who do know him say he has three overriding characteristics. He does an intense amount of homework and knows his subject backwards. He is gentle in manner, softly spoken, understated and very polite. He is also extremely patient — unusually so, given the usual pace of business dealings. He seems to put time on his side, and will not be rushed into a decision.

In public, he is withdrawn and tends to hang back. He is almost invariably clad in his "uniform" — grey suit and white shirt, dark blue tie, and skull cap. He has a scraggy beard, and dark hair, and does not appear to have aged at all in spite of ill-fated forays into the UK and Mexico. He has a long-legged, purposeful stride — almost a lunge — and is known for his engaging smile. As one observer puts it: "He has a really human, genuine smile. His eyes sparkle."

It is ironic that his key partner in the Canary Wharf rescue should be Prince al-Waleed bin Talal, the billionaire Saudi investor who effectively rescued Euro Disney last year. They are different in every respect, down to their speech and mannerisms.



Patient Paul Reichmann is back in control, as part of a consortium, at Canary Wharf

The 39-year-old prince is known for his snap decisions, and staccato speech. A business associate says: "He is the most decisive man I have ever met. He asks the questions that matter, then makes his mind up."

Prince al-Waleed spends a month each summer in Cannes on his luxury yacht, and it was here, in the summer of 1994, that Mr Reichmann first broached the idea of joining forces for a Canary Wharf bid. It was felt at the time that they would be better off pursuing separate bids, but subsequently threw in their lot at a meeting in London this summer.

Whatever their cultural differences, they are united by a common commercial purpose. The prince's reaction to the deal was great, now on to the next one. Mr Reichmann is clearly deeply satisfied to have achieved his goal, but is not one to dance on the tables. A commentator says: "The prince is a very cool investor, and this is just a deal done. Mr Reichmann is very satisfied. His feeling is that this is a property that has been undervalued, and he wants to show that his vision was correct."

Stephen Adamson, of Ernst & Young, who met Mr Reichmann several times as lead administrator of Canary Wharf, said: "He is a very impressive man. I've seen a lot of people who have lost fortunes, and thought he conducted himself with quite remarkable dignity. I think

he's one of the very few failed property developers who still demands and deserves respect."

The Reichmann wealth — the family was once estimated to be the world's seventh richest — was built mainly on property deals in the 1970s and 1980s, principally in Toronto and New York. In Toronto, the Reichmanns were feted among the Jewish community as a surrogate royal family, highly respected for their discreet philanthropy. Mr Reichmann, said to be the most important businessman to emerge from Canada since the Second World War, was the most conspicuous figure in a family-run property dynasty that became a legend for its secrecy.

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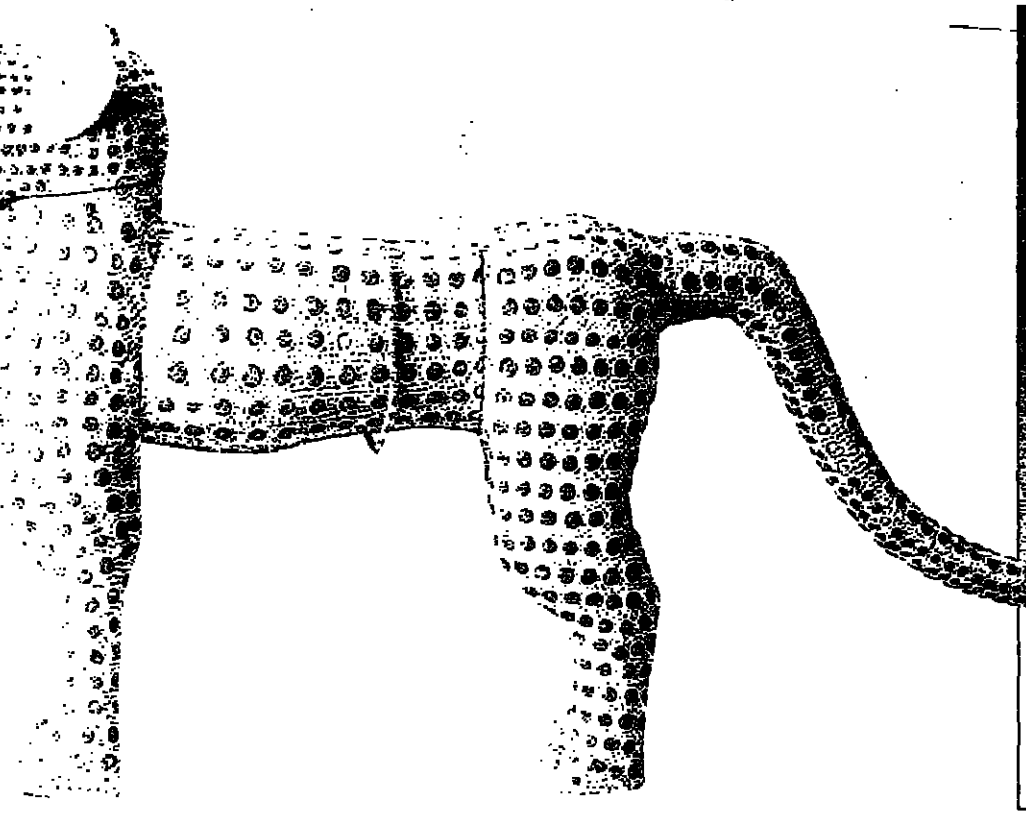
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Wood carving by the Mumuye people of Nigeria



Left to right: a terracotta figure from Segou, Mali; a leopard made from ivory and bullet shells from Benin, 19th century, lent by the Queen; a terracotta memorial head from Ghana, 17th-19th century

Voyages into the soul of Africa

John Russell Taylor introduces a major exhibition of 50 centuries of art

Faced with the great panorama of African art over 50 centuries, the European cannot but reel back in wonder and delight, but also in puzzlement.

It has become fashionable to say that what the European thinks or feels about other cultures is of no account, and probably represents cultural imperialism or cultural appropriation. Nevertheless, an exhibition designed by Europeans for a European audience involves the question of European responses.

The problem is that although there is such a thing as European response, there is no such thing as a single, coherent African response with which to compare it. It would be difficult enough to generalise about a presentation devoted entirely to art in Africa in the 20th century, but when the field of inquiry is broadened to include artworks made as long ago as 3500 BC, generalisation becomes impossible.

To take Egypt, for instance: it is problematic enough to see any real continuity between early dynastic art, Islamic art, and timeless peasant art in the one country. To try to line up Egyptian art with the art of the Congo, or Nigeria, or even

Ethiopia, is an even more thankless task.

It is no wonder that the European tends to see African art in terms of previous contacts, particularly the contacts of 20th-century European and American artists with what was at the beginning of the century unselfconsciously called "primitive art".

In *Africa: The Art of a Continent* (the exhibition at the Royal Academy starts today and runs until January 21), one sometimes feels like the man who said that *Hamlet* was fine, except that there were too many quotations. Almost wherever one looks, there is something strangely familiar. A mask that is surely by Modigliani, a wooden totem pole which must have been carved by Brancusi, a fetish out of a Picasso painting.

That is fair enough as a first venture into strange territory. The only way to the unfamiliar is often through the familiar. If the artists we find ourselves recalling were, in their time, practising a species of cultural appropriation, they were also being colonised by Africa.

In many vital senses, the 20th

century has been the century of Africa, the century when Africa emerged from being the Dark Continent and inserted its imaginative sway on other, more malleable societies.

Then there is the almost unthinkable diversity of the continent to contend with. The Royal Academy show is arranged chronologically and geographically. Visitors start with the earliest works, which happen to be Egyptian, and work their way through the centuries back to Egypt again, though this time late Islamic Egypt.

At the same time they are making a geographical tour of Africa, moving round Africa clockwise as they move round the galleries and clockwise. For the purposes of the exhibition, African art is divided into seven sections.

After Egypt, for instance, the second section deals with eastern Africa, which is here regarded as stretching from Ethiopia in the north, down through Tanzania and Zimbabwe to the northernmost point of South Africa, including Madagascar along the way. Surely nobody would claim much consistency there. Though Sir David Attenborough insists that there is a profoundly felt aesthetic underlying and linking together of everything in the exhibition, one of the purposes of the organisers seems to be to amaze us with the sheer diversity of style and inspiration.

It soon becomes clear that art outside Africa are selective. It would be fair to say that when people talk about African art, they are usually thinking of Congolese art. It was sculptures from the Congo which first found their way to Parisian curiosity shops and caught the attention of Picasso, Modigliani, Derain and others.

From the point of view of their makers, these wooden masks were of primarily ritual significance, to do with crime and retribution. For the Paris-based artists who first became aware of them, they were divorced from their context and made their effect by their sophisticated formal qualities, their often exquisite workmanship. If they were found frightening and myste-

rious, that was part of their original purpose.

This is very different from the arts in North Africa. Islamic cultures are, after all, inimical to the representation of the human being, which elsewhere in Africa is the most important single area of subject matter. It is significant that when European artists such as Matisse and Klee were much affected by visits to North Africa, it was the scenes in general which captivated them, so architecture probably had most effect. The manuscripts and glassware are extraordinary in themselves, but have little to do with the rest of Africa. Like dynastic Egyptian art, they have their own code of conventions which relate in no vital way to, say, the tribes of the Congo.

The differences are dictated not only by such matters as the forms of religion and social organisation predominating; there are also practical considerations such as the kinds of materials available.

Ceramics are more or less prominent depending on the availability of the right sorts of clay. Wood carving is much more extensive

and important in forested areas, and the difference between hard wood and soft wood carving is also of great significance.

The very sophisticated bronze-casting of Nigerian sculpture in general and the portrait heads of Benin in particular are exceptional in the corpus of African art, and the delicately realistic style of the Benin heads is so exceptional in a continent where aesthetic realism was rarely an issue that it is easy to understand wild theories of some occult link between medieval Nigeria and ancient Greece.

As Europe becomes, in most practical ways, more and more unified, it also retains its linguistic and cultural diversity. Not only that, but the individual life of many minority cultures seems to be enhanced by being a small unit in a larger whole. African political unity is obviously even further away than European, but the continent is still seen as a single unit in which the component parts have most in common with one another.

Here cultural diversity survives and flourishes, and if some of that richness and complexity conveys itself to the outside world, then Britain's African autumn will have more than made its point.

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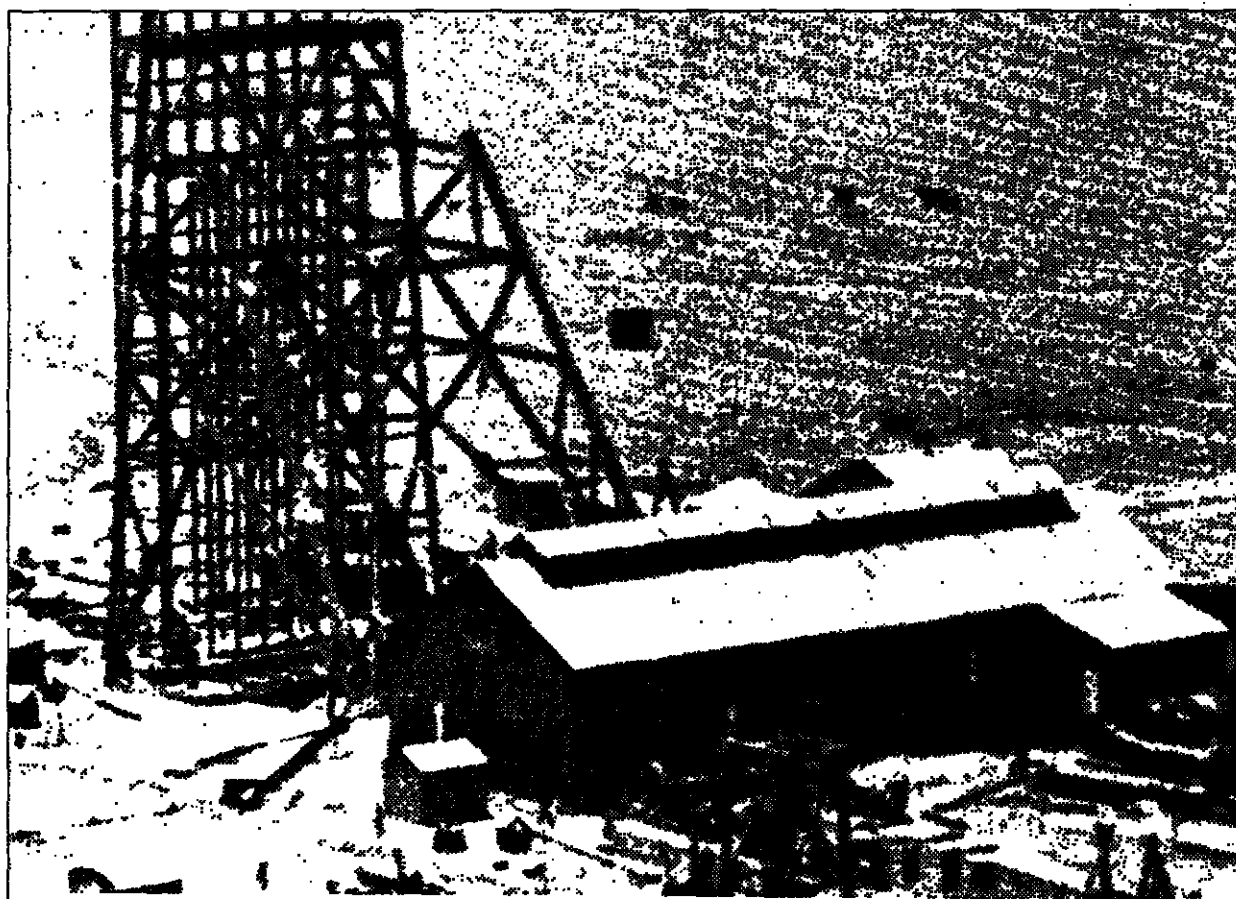
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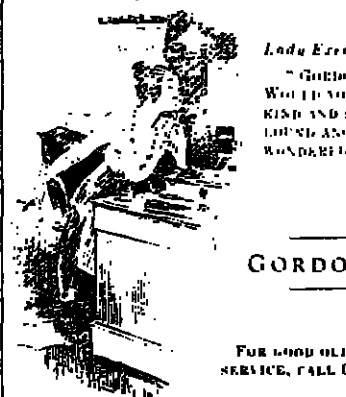
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England and Australia put differences aside at World Cup launch

Samoans ready to devour big fish

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE laid-back Western Samoa party was stuck on the 46 and so was late taking its place at the rugby league union table at Old Trafford yesterday. Unlike the other 16 countries in the Halifax World Cup, the Samoans have to play a game together. It is that they consider it a handicap.

"We're doing it island-style," Graham Lowe, their coach, said. "We've got together, had a few drinks, played a few guitars, had a few songs, a few games of pool... we'll be ready."

Lowe, a wily Kiwi, is not selling anyone. Up against the big fish, the Samoans are the minnows with the best chance of catching the flood. While the other minor league nations can boast the aid of a "name" player, the sum of Samoa's many talented individuals is one of the most eagerly-awaited sides of the three-week tournament that starts this weekend.

Few of the sides possess the same flamboyance and firework, plus experience of British conditions. Vala'ega Uagamala and John Chuster, two former All Blacks, and Tasi Kapa, a former Tui Māori, will spearhead the Samoan challenge to Wales and France in the most competitive of the three groups, with just one semi-final place at stake.

There is nothing contrived about the Samoans, nor Fiji or Tonga, their fellow newcomers. The game is taking firm root in the South Pacific Basin. Papua New Guinea, it has been going half of rugby league's 100 years and is a national obsession. A record number of participating countries in the eleventh World Cup is testimony to the widening appeal of the sport.

Those who mock the numbers, when the game is only

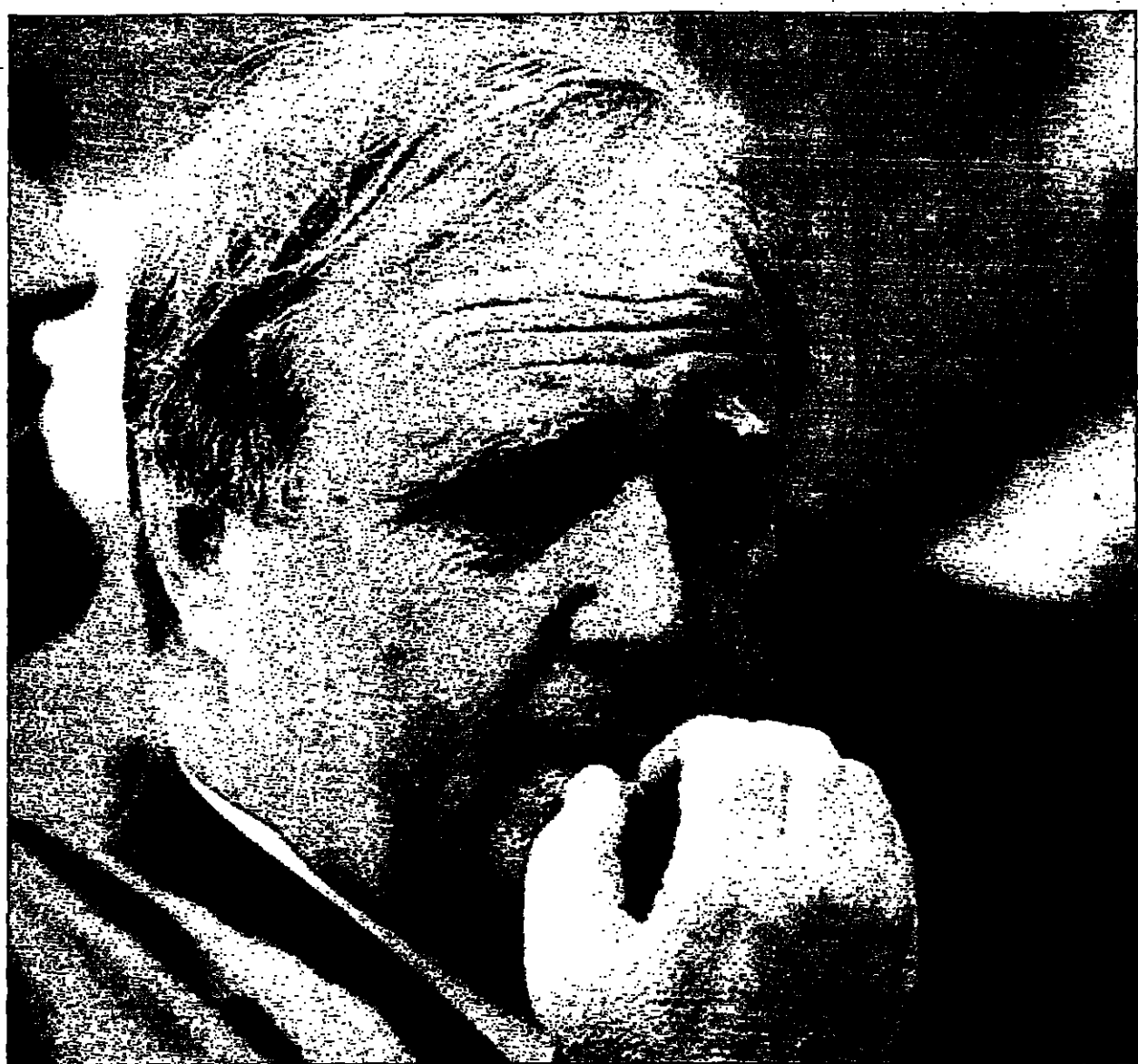
played to the highest standard in Britain, Australia and New Zealand, miss the point about development and the self-evident popularity of the code. No such criticism is levelled at countries who have no chance of winning the football and rugby union World Cups.

Little should be read into the fact that the Fijians at the welcoming ceremony yesterday looked less formidable than war-painted members of the Dance Theatre of Fiji. Having Australia and England in their group is an extremely short straw. "Yes, they're very strong," Livali Nalaglagi, the captain, said. "We're looking first to beat South Africa. We'll do what we like doing best, running the ball."

South Africa, by virtue of the clamp-down on league's grass-roots emergence by rugby union down the years, is once again attempting to rebuild. The World Cup comes alarmingly early in the process, but Tony Fisher, on secondment from Dewsbury to coach the "Rhinos", has been sufficiently impressed to sign up six players for his first division side. "We won't let rugby league down," he said.

It is the unknown that concerns Phil Larder, the England coach who will play both Fiji and South Africa the respect of strong, possibly even his strongest, sides, if the situation demands. "We won't be making any announcements on the team for the Fiji game at Wigan next Wednesday until we've watched them against South Africa on Sunday. We can take it as read that both of them will be physical. They are not challenges to be underestimated."

Tonga have been dealt a series of blows, with the defections of Jim Dymock and John Hopcraft to the Australia camp and the withdrawal of several players in the past



Lindsay was in pensive mood when the ten World Cup nations gathered at Old Trafford yesterday

Players facing drugs purge

week because of injury. Duane Mann, the captain, said their resolve was to play "hard, clean and fair" in the group containing New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, whose coach, Joe Tobrum, said win-win games in France had helped his squad deal with the main problem of acclimatising to the cold felt on tour before.

England and Australia, on opposite sides of the argument raging over the Super League and the future direction of the game, were seated together. The outcome of some backstage diplomacy between Maurice Lindsay, the tournament director, and Bob Fulton, the Australia coach, was a temporary lull in the fighting.

"The Super League issue will be left outside the boundaries of this competition," Lindsay said. "The athletes will now do the talking." The greatest rugby league show on earth deserves that much.

DRUG testing at the world cup will be among the most thorough carried out at any sporting event in this country. Maurice Lindsay, the tournament director, said all 250 players would have been tested twice by the end of the tournament, and random testing would be conducted at all matches (Christopher Irvine writes).

Pseudo-ephedrine, a stimulant found in cold remedies and permissible in Australia because of low-dosage levels, remains a banned drug under competition rules, which comply with the International Olympic Committee list. Dean Pay, a member of the Australia squad, tested positive for pseudo-ephedrine on tour here last year and escaped punishment by the

Australian Rugby League. Lindsay said that Nathan Gibbs, the Australia team doctor, had submitted details to the International Rugby League Board about nasal decongestants prescribed for two players. These remedies were acceptable and were not on the banned list.

Ticket sales for the tournament stand at 122,000. Of these, 23,600 are for the England-Australia match at Wembley on Saturday. "I'm confident we'll get at least 30,000. We budgeted for between 35,000 and 40,000. A full house was never expected for the opening game," Lindsay said.

Although passed fit, there is still anxiety about Martin Offiah's calf strain and a knock he took on the ankle in

a testimonial match last weekend. However, the Wigan player is expected to be selected today by the England coach, Phil Larder, on the left wing. "Martin is one of those confidence players and, as yet, he hasn't been able to go flat out," Larder said.

The condition of Gary Connolly, the 24-year-old centre who was withdrawn from the Wembley game because of pneumonia, is being given another week to improve before any decision to call up a replacement to the squad is made. "We are delaying any decision as Gary is so important to us," Larder said. "We are looking at the possibility of him playing in the semi-final, so we want to give him every chance."

Induráin targeting Boardman's title

CHRIS BOARDMAN, out of action since his accident in the Tour de France in July, will be watching television pictures from Colombia today to see who inherits the second of the two world cycling titles he won in 1994. Graeme Obree took Boardman's 4,000 metres track pursuit championship in Bogota a week ago and has a chance of a medal in the 42km road time-trial today. Miguel Induráin, of Spain, the winner of the Tour de France for the last five years, was confirmed yesterday among the 63 riders on the road from Paipa to Tunja.

He did not compete in last year's inaugural championship, which Boardman won from Andrea Chirotto, of Italy. On that occasion, sickness reduced Obree to a shadow of his former self and he trailed in five minutes slower than Boardman. If Induráin, after weeks of preparation at altitude in the United States and Colombia, fails to produce the edge of speed today, his compatriot, Abraham Olano, second in the recent tour of Spain and winner of the 41km time-trial there, could be a serious challenger.

Ireland call up Phelan

FOOTBALL: Terry Phelan, the Manchester City defender, has been drafted into the Republic of Ireland squad for the crucial group 'six' European championship qualifying tie against Latvia in Dublin on October 11. Phelan, 28, replaces the injured Denis Irwin, of Manchester United, at full back. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said of Irwin: "He's two or three weeks away. It's a bad blow for him because it's a big game for Ireland."

England at their best

GOLF: England will be at full strength when they begin the defence of their women's home international title against Scotland at Wrexham today. The champions can select their first-choice team, unlike Scotland, who are without Janice Moodie and Mhairi McKay, both members of the side which finished runners-up in the European Team Championships in Milan in July. They are at university in the United States.

Christie repays Bills

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Steve Christie kicked a 33-yard field goal with five seconds remaining in the fourth quarter to lift the Buffalo Bills to a 22-19 victory over the Cleveland Browns in Ohio on Monday. Christie originally hooked the kick while the Cleveland linebackers, Pepper Johnson, had signalled for a time-out before the kick, negating the miss and giving Christie another chance to secure the victory.

Regan seeks new date

BOXING: Robbie Regan's attempt to regain the British flyweight title from his old rival, Francis Ampong, has been postponed because of a car crash suffered by the Welshman three weeks ago. The contest was scheduled for October 25 in Cardiff, but Regan's training has been disrupted by whiplash and foot injuries. Dai Gardiner, Regan's manager, is requesting a further month to prepare.

Bristol size up Jarman

RUGBY UNION: Bristol are expected to sign Richard Jarman, the New Zealand under-21 player, this weekend, after he sent the club a video of himself playing. Jarman will provide cover for Kyran Bracken, the England scrum half, but can also play in the centre. He could make his debut for the second team on Saturday against Sale. Jarman previously played for Taranaki, a leading New Zealand side.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

arin Garvey, who as well as being a keen bridge player is an expert on Wimbledon Football Club, asked me what I would lead on this hand, against the auction 1NT - 3NT:

♠9832 ♥K4 ♠984 ♠9842

When I lamely said a spade, he assured me that the king of spades was correct (looks to me like the sort of lead Vinny Jones could make). Then I was challenged on whether I could make NT as South, on the lead of the king of hearts (it being assumed I knew nothing more about the rest of West's hand).

is was the full deal:

Dealer South	Love all	Teams									
	♠QJ ♥Q83 ♦Q76 ♣KQ1083										
♠9832 ♥K4 ♦984 ♣9842	<table><tr><td>N</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr></table>	N		E	W				S		♠A104 ♥VJ10978 ♦K103 ♣A5
N		E									
W											
	S										
	♠K765 ♥A52 ♦A152 ♣J7										

Contract: 3 NT by South. Lead: King of hearts

I said I would duck the art, take the next one with a ace and clear clubs. I was told that East would win the card club and play a third art. Now what would I do? I suggested that after taking a club, I might try a spade. Of course, I wasn't giving it full attention, you understand, I was thinking of short-guessing and I wanted to see how Gullit would play in the depths of inter-club matches against the likes of Bolton and Liddlesbrough, when the club was hock-deep. "Wrong," arvey said. "On the lead of a king of hearts, East is asked with the rest of the gh cards."

That is true and it is a good hint: leading K from K x

against no-trumps is already slightly eccentric but it would be much more eccentric to do so with other high cards on the side. So the winning line is to run the clubs and when West has to discard two spades and a diamond, the declarer comes down to the king of spades and A J 5 2 of diamonds. If West started with the rest of the high cards, it follows that he must have come down to K x of diamonds - he is known to have two hearts and the ace of spades left. Declarer now finesses the jack of diamonds and plays off the ace to drop East's king and make his contract.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Disaster strikes Anand Garry Kasparov, the world champion, has moved into a dominating lead after the 13th game of the World Chess Championship in New York. However, for this 15th game, the challenger, grandmaster Viswanathan Anand, was pre-emptively the architect of his own destruction. Kasparov once again chose the sharp and risky Dragon Variation of the Sicilian Defence, but although forewarned by Kasparov's prior utilisation of this line in game 11, Anand and his team of advisers appeared to have prepared nothing with any particular venom in it against Kasparov's new favourite.

Anand's 12th move, exchanging one of his attacking pieces and strengthening Black's pawn structure in the centre, was feeble. His 19th move, which allowed Kasparov to mobilise his central pawns, was a blunder, while Anand's 21st move threw the game away by overlooking a devastating sacrificial conclusion. Kasparov then offered a pawn sacrifice and swept down the central files to pulverise the white king. Kasparov concluded with a elegant sacrifice of a knight to terminate White's resistance by hounding White's king to destruction.

Anand has now created an unsolvable record, losing the shortest game with the white pieces in a world championship match since Steinitz lost to Chigorin in 24 moves in 1892. A particular feature of Anand's loss was that he resigned without moving either of his rooks. White Viswanathan Anand Black Garry Kasparov Intel World Chess Championship, Game 13, October 1995

Sicilian Defence
1 e4 c5
2 Nf3 d6

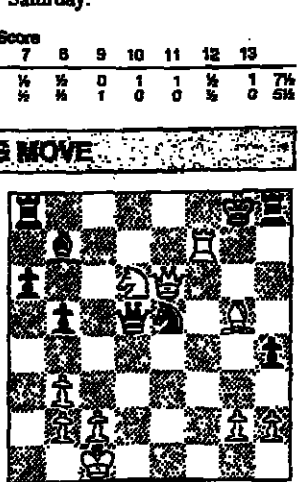
Match Score
Kasparov 1/2 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
Anand 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2

3 d4	cxd4
4 Nc3	Nf6
5 Bc2	g5
6 Qc2	Nc6
7 Bb1	O-O
8 Bc4	Bd7
9 Nf4	h5
10 Bc2	Rc8
11 Nc3	bxc6
12 Bb1	Bb7
13 Bb1	Qb6
14 Bc4	Kg7
15 Bxg7	Bxg7
16 Bb1	Bd5
17 Nd5	Bxd5
18 exd5	e5
19 dxe6	d4
20 Bc2	c4
21 c3	Rc6
22 bxc4	Rxc6
23 Kf1	Rf6
24 Bc3	cbx4
25 Bc4	Nc4

White resigns
Diagram of final position
In the final position Black's knight sacrifice is terminal for White. After 26 bxc4 Rb6 27 Ke1 Rxe4 28 Bc2 Qd2 29 Kd1 Rxe2 30 Qa2 Rd6 White's position is hopeless.

New Times chess book Improve your game with Ray Keene's latest book, The Times Winning Chess, just published by Bantam at £9.99 (credit card orders 01376 327901).

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Saturday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.



Solution on page 46

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

IRL
A round bonnet
To twirl
Bramble undergrowth

ALOPSIA
An Alpine plant
Rose-coloured spectacles
Yellow colour-blindness

CORUSCATE
a. To sparkle
b. Heart-shaped
c. Rusty
RECREMENT
a. Holiday money
b. Compensation
c. Reabsorbed secretion

Answers on page 46

Sri Lanka seal one-day international series

SRI Lanka's cricketers complemented their Test series triumph over Pakistan by winning the deciding one-day international in Rawalpindi yesterday by four wickets with two balls to spare, to seal a 2-1 victory. In a contest reduced to 38 overs each after rain, Sri Lanka were set a target of 184.

Sri Lanka appeared to be cruising at 138 for three but then lost three wickets in

four overs to be left on 165 for six, needing 19 runs from 21 balls. Hasan Tillekeratne and Ruwan Kalpage defied the fading light, however, to clinch victory.

The visitors had limited Pakistan to 183 for nine in their 38 overs, with Kumara Dharmasena taking three for 30, and Aravinda de Silva three for 36.

Pakistan failed to take advantage of a 55-run opening stand and their last eight

wickets fell for 128 runs. Salim Blahi (30), Inzamam-ul-Haq (25) and Saeed Azad (19) were all caught on the boundary, while Aamir Sohail and Ramiz Raja were stumped. The innings was held together by the all-rounder, Aamir Hanif, who scored an unbeaten 36, but it was not enough to halt Sri Lanka.

Scoreboard, page 44

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

NATIONAL RIVERS AUTHORITY
SALMON AND FRESHWATER
FISHERIES ACT 1975

Pursuant to Section 25 of and Schedule 2 to the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975, the National Rivers Authority (NRA) hereby gives notice of its intention to fix new fishing licence duties which will have effect throughout the NRA's area of jurisdiction. It is intended that the duties set out below will come into force on 1 April 1996.

- Notices: Not and Not
For a period of 12 months with effect from 1 April 1996.
All vessels within the jurisdiction of the National Rivers Authority.
(1) Salmon, migratory trout (sea trout), migratory trout, charr, freshwater fish (except fish and eels). Full annual charge £25.00. Concessionary charge £22.50.
(2) Non-migratory trout, charr, freshwater fish (except fish and eels). No charge to licence.
2. The concessionary charge will apply to:
(a) persons who have reached the age of 22 but have not reached the age of 25 on the date of payment of the licence;
(b) persons aged 65 years or older;
(c) persons in receipt of:
(i) long-term incapacity benefit;
(ii) severe disablement allowance;
(iii) severe disablement grant;
(iv) severe disablement pension;
(v) severe disablement allowance;
(vi) severe disablement grant;
(vii) severe disablement pension;
(viii) severe disablement allowance;
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(clix) severe disablement allowance;
(cli) severe disablement grant;
(clii) severe disablement pension;
(cliii) severe disablement allowance;
(cliv) severe disablement grant;
(clv) severe disablement pension;
(clvi) severe disablement allowance;
(clvii)

Good luck to those possessing the most precious commodity in sport



ANDREW LONGMORE
Midweek View

The fourth morning of the Oval Test match, the West Indies bats for not many wickets. Richie Richardson, for once, is in full flow and Dominic Cork on for his second over of the morning. What happens next, when Cork bowls a gentle short ball outside the West Indies captain's off stump? In multi-choice answers to that question, there would be few marks for ticking (a) retrieve ball from boundary fence. Only the truly optimistic of the truly blessed would venture (b) watch gully take a brilliant left-handed catch and celebrate wildly as if this was part of a master-plan.

Full marks for those answering (b). Richardson, eyes wide with delight, launched into his trademark shot only to see Graeme Hick take the catch. Richardson c Hick b Cork 93. A beautiful away-swinging forcing the edge? A canny piece of foreplay inducing a cramped cut? A wicked short ball fended off the throat? The bare facts of the scorebook allow the imagination full rein.

Really, it should reveal the truth. Bad ball, good shot, lucky boy. If there was one true comparison with Ian Botham — as opposed to the wishful thinking of "the next Botham" — that wicket bore it out. Cork, like Botham, is a lucky bowler, inexplicably capable of furling good batsmen into schoolboy blunders.

It is an impossible question to answer, but has anyone earned more wickets with bad balls than Botham? I think not. And it is not just the perfectly decent ploy of bowling two overs of good balls and then slipping in a bad one on purpose to make the batsman think. These are balls the bowler would want to retract if he had the chance, cringingly awful balls that would be laughed out of sight on the village green. But lucky bowlers take good wickets with them.

Luck is the most precious commodity in sport. It is also the most dangerous, because sportsmen cannot control it. The shibboleth is that luck evens itself out in the end. Snooker players have to think that way because they would go demented sitting there for hour after hour, waiting for the balls to run their way. Golfers, too, with time to reflect between shots, have to adopt the philosophical approach or risk eternal damnation.

Gary Player's conviction that there

was no such thing as luck was encapsulated in the phrase: "The more I practise, the luckier I get." But try telling that to a relegation-threatened football manager.

In the United States, the notion of luck is viewed differently. The golf courses there are designed, like the tennis courts, to bring every ounce of luck out of the game. No bad bounces on those wide-open, picture-postcard fairways; what you hit is what you get. That is one reason why some Americans — not the majority, thankfully — cannot cope with a course like St Andrews, where the rules of cause and effect are not so clear-cut. Good shots can end in bad places and vice versa. The trick is to forget about it and wait for the next lucky bounce.

Ivan Lendl never found the knack and so could not master fully the art of grass-court tennis. He loved hard courts, where the bounce was even, and his well-ordered mind was short-circuited by the unprogrammable. Net-cords he would glower at, but

accept. Grass, with its patchy bounce and varied pace, annoyed the hell out of him. So he never won Wimbledon.

Luck is attributed strange and powerful properties in some sports, given form and reason way beyond the truth. Football managers will swear blind that bad luck follows the down-and-outs, badgers the life out of a team short of confidence and therefore induces further neuroses. The dodgy penalty, the shot against the bar, the incompetent referee: the breaks never go the way of those who need them most. "Why pick on me when they have luck to spare?" A convenient excuse, of course. When your team is winning, nobody remembers the bad luck, so it is not there. Only in defeat does bad luck assume heroic proportions.

Sometimes, luck is not luck at all. Botham's luck became self-propelling in the end, a product of the man and therefore rational. Botham scrambled minds and made batsmen do daft things through force of character and reputation. Cork, glory be, seems to have the same powers. Do not let anyone tell him that luck evens itself out in the end. It is poppycock. On Sunday, 67 seconds into his return, Cantona is allowed time and space to drive in a low cross. It is aimed for Cole, but reaches Burt, who scores. Some people are just born lucky.



Cantona: blessed by good fortune

Earthquake fails to halt Towers cup tie

By Nicholas Harling

THE aftermath of the earthquake in western Turkey that killed at least 52 people on Sunday is not expected to prevent London Towers from playing the second leg of their Korac Cup second-round tie against Tofas Spor Kulubu tonight.

Kulubu's home is at Bursa, about 300 miles from the epicentre of the earthquake in Izmir. "We checked with the Turkish consulate and Turkish airline and there was no problem," Barry Marshall, the club's owner, said.

With no aftershocks expected to reach Bursa, the main worry for Kevin Cadie, the Towers coach, revolves around his team's capacity for holding onto their nine-point lead and not succumbing to the intimidation of either their hosts or the crowd. "You can be certain that the crowd will be boisterous," he said.

No visiting player promises to respond more than Danny Lewis. Towers' American guard, who is no stranger to hostile crowds after playing in the Mexican league two years ago. "The bigger and noisier they are, the better I play," he said.

Their two England internationals, Steve Bucknall and Joel Moore, both returned from injury on Sunday when they helped the club go top of the Budweiser League with a 91-77 victory over the Leopards.

Sheffield Sharks have less realistic hopes of progress when they complete their European championship tie against Real Madrid in Spain tomorrow. The Sharks resume ten points down against the European champions.

Northern provide Cannons' fodder

By Colin McQuillan

THE Super Squash League (SSL) season began this week with Cannons Club, of London, the champions, securing a 2-1 victory over Jim Hall Sports Northern, the Manchester club, and Ogmore Valley Dragons beating Ellis Stockbrokers Lingfield by the same margin.

Although the SSL boasts the more impressive international players among its squads, the reorganised SRA (Squash Rackets Association) National League, that forms the apex of England's 50,000-player league structure, again looks set to steal spectator interest for the coming season.

Under the increasingly player-orientated regime established within the SRA under the presidency of the former world No 1 and British Open champion, Jonah Barrington, each team in the first division of the National League must, for the first time, include a woman and allow women to compete at any other level in the playing order.

National League competition begins in the North on Tuesday, October 17, and in the South on Thursday, October 19, in an intense programme leading up to inter-zone play-offs next March.

The British women's champion, Fiona Gieves, has signed for Sigma Strings, the Swansea side that also includes Chris Robertson, the Australian former world No 2, who is now national coach to Wales, while Suzanne Horner, the world No 4, will play for Reebok Nottingham. Cassandra Jackman has signed for Keyline Barnham Broom, from Norfolk.

Over the next 6 months you'll probably need the new Home strip, the Away strip, the new Away strip, the T-shirt and the new armchair.



(But one thing's for sure, if you take out a NatWest Access or Visa card we'll discount our interest rate until 30th June 1996.)

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FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
* denotes 3rd tier

Coca-Cola Cup

Second round, second leg

Sheff Wed (0) v Sheff Wed (2) (7.45)

Sheff Wed (0) v Sheff Wed (2) (7.45)

* Chester (0) v Tottenham (4)

Derby (3) v Shrewsbury (1) (7.45)

Exeter (0) v Millwall (0) (7.45)

Hull (0) v Coventry (2)

Man City (0) v Wycombe (0) (7.45)

Newcastle (0) v Bristol City (0) (7.45)

Notts Forest (2) v Bradford (0) (7.45)

Oxford (0) v Tranmere (1) (7.45)

Sheff Wed (0) v Crewe (2) (7.45)

Southampton (0) v Cardiff (0)

Sunderland (0) v Liverpool (2) (7.45)

Torquay (1) v Nantwich (0) (7.45)

West Ham (1) v Bristol Rovers (0) (7.45)

Bol's Scottish League

Premier division

Falkirk v Celtic

Hearts v Aberdeen

Park v Kilmarnock

Rath v Hibernian

Scottish League Challenge Cup

Semi-finals

Dundee v Dundee Utd

Strling v Stenhousemuir

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: First division

Chorley v Chorley, 1st leg: Chorley v

Rothwell, Parkham v Fleet, Newport Alb v

Ministry Tydd v Chorley, Chorley v

Park, Stenhousemuir v Margate, VS Rugby v

Newport, Waterhouse v Newport IDW.

UNBORN LEAGUE: Premier division

Accrington Stanley v Barn Spartans, Wilson

Durham, Peterlee v Gateshead, Whitburn v

SSSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division

Cup: First round: Romford v Port

United

JEHSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division

Brookmans v Bourne, Dover Sports v

Chesham & Wotton, Dartford v Dover, East

Cove v Thurston, Petersfield v

Whitchurch

UNILET SUSSEX LEAGUE: John O'Hara

League Cup: Second round: Whitshank v

Lancing

FA CUP: Second round: Whitshank v

Lancing

FA CUP: Second round: Whitshank v

Lancing

FA CUP: Second round: Whitshank v

Lancing

FA CUP: Second round: Whitshank v

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FA CUP: Second round: Whitshank v

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FA CUP: Second round: Whitshank v

Lancing

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Wales Open: Second round

1st leg: Bute (14) v London

Towers (8) (8.0)

GOLF: Women's home internationals

Wolverhampton, Paddy v Ebbw Vale

TELEVISION: Men's and women's satellite

tournaments (Nottingham)

Brainwaves, boredom and barbershops

Last night David Jessel introduced us to the Theta wave and nothing will ever look the same again. The programme was *A Mind to Crime* (Channel 4, Thursday), and the theory is that criminal behaviour derives from an easily diagnosed abnormality of the brain. Simply, the frontal cortex of criminal types is under-stimulated — their Theta waves are 'sluggish' — and since this is the area of the brain controlling analysis and emotion, such people shoot first and then don't ask questions at all. While nobody believes in phrenology any more, it is perhaps worth pointing out that 100 years ago anybody with a quizzical chart of the human head could have told you precisely this.

How many programmes have we seen about psychologists wrestling with the social factors in the criminal make-up, ignoring that

all-important cortex thing? Two or three Sundays ago, BBC's *Everyman* showed an extraordinary film by Paul Berrill about armed robbers, in which professional criminals sat in circles and talked frankly about their complete lack of consideration for the people whose lives they ruined. The robbers shared a skewed, selfish view of the world — which, do-gooder psychologists were busy trying to skew the other way. Under very gentle questioning about his personal life, one particular man would squirm in mental discomfort and then (always) walk out. You could almost hear the unused bits of his brain squeak and scuttle into the dark as the light was shone inside. Now we know it was his Theta waves making the noise.

Does this evidence mean we are stuck with the problem? Well, no. Here is the good news. Experiments in America involving medi-

cation and mental exercise have taken overactive, destructive children and steadily instilled in their brains a package of fear, guilt and conscience. "Take your human being pills, dear," their mothers ought to tell each day. These little monsters have stopped killing animals, and started getting A grades. Doubtless this is social engineering, unacceptable to all believers in free will, and only one step short of eugenics. But it sounds like a miracle nonetheless.

Of course, there are other implications. Should a scheme for Theta-wave stimulation be universally enforced, it would probably wipe out other professions besides the criminal ones. Instill fear, empathy and conscience, and what happens? Mountaineering and politics vanish at a stroke. Also, there is nothing put in soap operas. In such a brave new world, last



Lynne Truss

night's *EastEnders* (BBC1) — the much-trailed showdown between Grant and Michelle — would have been less of a crowd-puller. "Michelle, how nice. Shall we work on those dollies for the children's home this evening?" Good idea. And may I say how lovely you look in that black T-shirt?

Instead, it started out as the sensible viewer watched crouching

happily behind the sofa, gasping "Ouch! Ouch! Ouch!". Michelle and Grant really hate each other, you see, and they are both "mounty"; also Michelle believes she is the only person Grant doesn't scare. Would they kill each other, perhaps? After all, Susan Tully is leaving this show soon, and the viewers are fed up guessing the route. Grant is the King Kong of soap opera. Michelle might go down in history as the vicious T Rex that put up a mortal fight.

But instead they calmed down. And it was as though a great big Theta wave swept through the Vic. "You never stop and put your brain into gear," accused Grant. "You don't know what love is!" yelled Michelle. But then, well, blame it on the drink: by taking big, exhausted gulps of unspecified brown spirit, they mellowed, and talked of remorse, conscience and other mental functions specific to the frontal cortex. Michelle admit-

ted she hurt people; Grant admitted he was unfair to Sharon. It was surreal, but also so very, very interesting that I fear I forgot to breathe. When Michelle and Grant finally kissed goodnight, they only looked mildly surprised, but personally I blacked out.

How to explain the drear effect of the submarine history series *Nautilus* (BBC2)? Difficult, but if there was ever a show that needed a torpedo on its tail, this is it. Last night we learnt that when the Soviet atomic sub K-3 was constructed in the late 1950s, its designers were not naval experts, but the gloriously named Ministry of Medium Sized Machine Building. Something about *Nautilus* suggests the broadcasting equivalent — a Department of Medium-Sized Documentary Series Making. In a grey bunker, with damp snow, it helps to imagine that Michael Gambon is

really narrating the history of the zip-fastener, or barbed wire; but actually no subject on earth would justify such lack of lustre.

Meanwhile, *Sound Stories* (BBC2) found an excellent upbeat subject in a barbershop choir from Pottton, Bedfordshire — 70 good-natured men in make-up and red jackets singing *Alabama Bound* while swaying, smiling, and making co-ordinated hand gestures. No send-up was entailed here; quite the reverse. Karen Whiteside's engaging film managed in half an hour to stimulate the Theta empathy waves to the point of passion, and the close harmony helped. Would the Sharon Express choir win first prize at the British Association competition in Harrogate? Well, they did! And by golly, they deserved it! Even when their coveted trophy turned out to be called "The Crawley Plaque", nothing could detract from such complete joy.

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (52346)
 - 7.00am BBC Breakfast News (5806487)
 - 9.05am *Dallas* — The Final Years (C) (1232984)
 - 9.50am *Brilliant Garden*. Kew. Rula Lenz takes a look at the most beautiful gardens in the 300-acre Royal Garden at Kew (C) (8675297)
 - 10.00am *News* (C) (5438704)
 - 10.05am *Conference Live 95*. The Labour Party (9458883) 12.50pm Regional News and weather (5438704)
 - 1.00pm *O'Clock News* (C) (5438704)
 - 1.30pm *Neighbours*. There is an intruder alert in Ramsay Street. Rick must hit the road again (C) (9125365)
 - 1.50pm *Hawkeye* (7233884) 2.35pm *Island Race* (C) (9125365) 3.05pm *The Great British Quiz* (C) (842810)
 - 3.30pm *Ants in Your Pants* (C) (8657237) 3.50pm *Clack! Vision* (C) (8647433) 4.10pm *Get Your Own Back* (C) (1119810) 4.35pm *Pirates* (C) (2811742)
 - 5.00pm *Newsround* (C) (9070162) 5.10pm *Blue Peter* (C) (2822617)
 - 5.35pm *Neighbours* (C) (9125365)
 - 6.00pm *Six O'Clock News* (C) (5438704)
 - 6.30pm *Regional News* (907)
 - 7.00pm *This is Your Life*. Presented by Michael Aspel (C) (8759)
 - 7.30pm *As Time Goes By*. Lionel is moving in with Jean but, both having lived alone for some time, will they be able to cope with their new way of life? With Judi Dench and Geoffrey Palmer (C) (801)
 - 8.00pm *Points of View*. Presented by Anne Robinson (C) (968723)
 - 8.15pm *How Do They Do That?* Behind the scenes with Eamonn Holmes and Jenny Hull, including how to get a troupe of 47 penguins to sing and dance with the comedian Jack Dee in the John Smith's advert and how to turn the classical violinist Vanessa Allen into a chart-topping pop star (C) (9125365)
 - 9.00pm *Nine O'Clock News* (C) (5438704)
 - 9.30pm *Smith and Jones*. Comedy series with Mel Smith and Griff Rhys-Jones (C) (89764)

- BBC2**
- 6.20am *Open University: The All Electric Home* (8887407) 6.45 *Culture and Society in Victorian Britain* (8022926) 7.10pm *City of the Future* (573004)
 - 8.00am *Breakfast News* (C) (5438704)
 - 8.15pm *The Legend of the White Rabbit* (C) (C) (8247297) 8.40pm *Leslie* (4097723)
 - 9.00am *Daytime on Two*. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, 10.00-10.25 *Playdays* (1273688)
 - 1.45pm *Comic Outside* (C) (2607810) 2.00pm *Johnson and Friends* (C) (1281886)
 - 2.10pm *Conference Live 95*. The Labour Party in Brighton (C). Includes News, regional news and weather at 3.00 and 3.55 (9204549)
 - 5.30pm *Floyd on Italy*. Tuscany (C) (C) (384)
 - 6.00pm *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Science-fiction adventures. (C) (979964)
 - 6.45pm *They Who Dare*. Free climber Maurizio "Manolo" Zanolla scales the southern face of the Marmolada in the Dolomites (C) (C) (426051)
 - 7.00pm *The Boat*. Atmospheric drama about the crew of a German U-boat on a mission to destroy British shipping in the North Atlantic. In German with English subtitles (C) (553932)
 - 7.50pm *Close Up*. George Rignall selects a scene from *Tales of Hoffman*. Mike Hodges one from *Panther* (C) (835094)

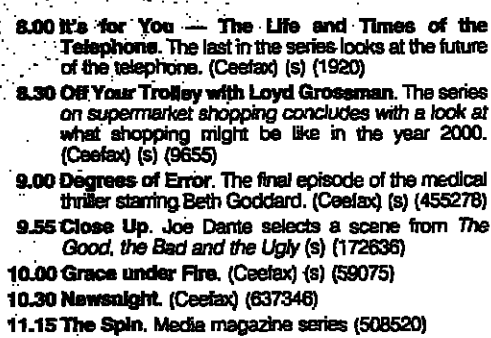
- CHOICE**
- Police. Camera. Action! *ITV*. 8.00pm
 - Alastair Stewart presents another anthology of appalling behaviour on the roads, culled from police videos. Ostensibly the programme is presenting a safety message, about reducing speed in the wet conditions, not being distracted by conversations on mobile phones and so on. As Stewart says, 95 per cent of accidents are caused by human error. But you cannot help feeling that the real motive is to carve an entertainment out of people making idiots of themselves. But it is unconvincing that there are so many careless, bad and wilfully dangerous drivers about. The most bizarre clip is of a high-speed car chase in which the pursued threaten to unleash a pit bull in the path of the oncoming police vehicle.
 - People's Century: 1919 — Lost Peace *BBC1*. 10.00pm
 - After the promise of its global beginning, the oral history of the 20th century has settled for a strongly European bias. The First World War was covered as if it happened mostly on the Western Front and now the inter-war years get a Euro-centred treatment in a film tracing the failure of the Versailles peace settlement and the path to the Second World War. Perhaps future programmes will redress the balance. Meanwhile, the series continues on now familiar lines, offering gazettes, newspapers and security devices but it does nothing to address the real situation.
 - Julie Flint on crime in Britain (C4, 9.00pm)
 - Frontline *Channel 4*. 9.00pm
 - It may be hard to believe but the journalist Julie Flint insists that when she returned home after a ten-year stint in Lebanon, she was more anxious about walking the streets in London than she ever had been in Beirut. Her film argues that while fear of crime in Britain is widespread, it is exaggerated and much greater than it used to be. This is largely unsupported by the statistics. She blames tabloid newspapers, and to an extent television programmes such as *Crimewatch*, for instilling in us the notion that it is hardly safe to put our faces outside the front door for fear of being mugged, raped or murdered. Playing on fear, Flint suggests, might sell newspapers, but she does nothing to address the real situation.
 - Battered Britain: Blazed *Channel 4*. 11.00pm
 - Blazed seems a curious choice for a season devoted to violence since, apart from a minor punch-out, there is hardly any violence in it. But this drama created out of improvisations by a cast of black teenagers is worth watching under any label. The setting is inner-city Coventry, where disenchanted kids see making money as the only escape from a purposeless existence. Suspended from school, a latter-day Bonnie and Clyde steal a car and go shopping but having had their fling decide that perhaps money is not the most important thing after all. The film's tale is put across with tremendous verve and it contains impressively natural performances from its young players, none of whom had acted before.

- CARTON**
- 6.00am *GMTV* (7474655)
 - 9.25am *Supermarket Sweep* (C) (5748181)
 - 9.55am *London Today* (C) (1283365)
 - 10.00pm *The...Place* (C) (9116346)
 - 10.35pm *This Morning* (3952723)
 - 12.20pm *London Today* (C) (1283365)
 - 12.30pm *News and weather* (C) (9184346)
 - 12.55pm *Home and Away* (C) (9192365)
 - 1.25pm *Coronation Street* (C) (1283365)
 - 1.55pm *Shortland Street* (9146520)
 - 2.20pm *Vanessa* (C) (44257907)
 - 2.50pm *Material World* (8121549)
 - 3.20pm *ITN News headlines* (C) (7509663)
 - 3.25pm *London Today* (C) (1283365)
 - 3.30pm *Alphabet Castle* (C) (4360555) 3.40pm *Wizards* (C) (1151988) 3.50pm *The Story Store* (C) (4364471) 4.05pm *Scoby Doo* (9596839) 4.15pm *Wolf in the Next Generation* (C) (841159) 4.45pm *Bad Influence* (C) (5820041)
 - 5.10pm *After 5 with Carol Keating*. Sylvester Stallone and Antonio Banderas talk about their new film, *Assassins*. (C) (1219013)
 - 5.55pm *ITN News* (C) (7509663)
 - 5.55pm *Your Show* (C) (9192365)
 - 6.00pm *Home and Away* (C) (9192365)
 - 6.30pm *London Tonight* (C) (425)
 - 7.00pm *Wheel of Fortune* (C) (8928)
 - 7.30pm *Coronation Street*. Bet demands an appointment with her bank manager (C) (1283365)

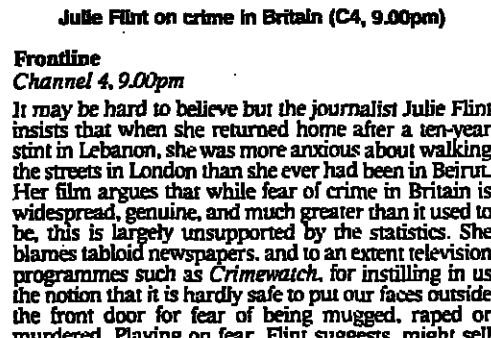
- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.35am *Alfred J. Kwak* (C) (6026742)
 - 7.00am *The Big Breakfast* (56013)
 - 9.00am *Sabotage*. All-women quiz (C) (C) (63278)
 - 9.30am *Schools*. Good Health (6303907) 9.45am *Book Box* (6391162) 10.00am *Stage Two Science* (2217549) 10.15pm *Making Sense of Science* (733758) 10.45pm *World* (2471278) 10.55pm *Film and Video Showcase* (1830655) 11.07pm *Schools at Work* (2203346) 11.15pm *The Mix* 11.30pm *Rai-a-Tai-Tai* (3629742) 11.45pm *First Edition* (3624297)
 - 12.00pm *Traveling in France* (C) (C) (78742)
 - 12.30pm *Sesame Street*. The guest is Annette Bening (45013) 1.30pm *Lift Off* (C) (91549)
 - 2.00pm *The Catch*. A short film about a woman found on the beach by a fisherman (22431452)
 - 2.15pm *FLM: Anatomy of an Illness* (1984) starring Edward Asner. A fact-based drama about Norman Cousins, the Editor of *Saturday Review*, who fought back against a degenerative bone disease. Directed by Richard T. Heffron (512742)
 - 4.00pm *Polly's Column* (C) (C) (988)
 - 4.30pm *Fifteen to One*. (C) (C) (100)
 - 5.00pm *Ricki Lake*. The guests are people whom no one believes when they deny they are gay. (C) (C) (134483) 5.45pm *Teletyons* (822607)
 - 6.00pm *My So-Called Life* (C) (C) (74887)
 - 7.00pm *Channel 4 News* (C) (73017)
 - 7.55pm *Fighting Back*. Series following the residents of Wolverhampton's Heath Town Estate, who try to improve their environment (C) (838181)
 - 8.00pm *Brookside*. Susanah realises old feelings when she stays at her home at the Farnham (C) (C) (2988)
 - 8.30pm *Absolutely Animals*. Dan Behr meets Arthur, the cat-dog advertising superstar (C) (C) (4723)
 - 9.00pm *Battered Britain: Frontline*. (C) (C) (820568)
 - 9.45pm *Tales of Battered Britain: The Copper's Tale*. A look at the work of Caroline Simmons, a police officer stationed in Southend. (C) (C) (180520)
 - 10.00pm *Northern Exposure*. Off-beat Alaska-based comedy. Includes a guest appearance by the film director Peter Bogdanovich (C) (C) (884094)
 - 10.55pm *The Long Johns*. John Bird and John Fortune manage to keep a straight face as Fortune plays the role of a fictitious MP, George Parr, who is interviewed about his views on youth crime. Last in the series (C) (C) (499758)



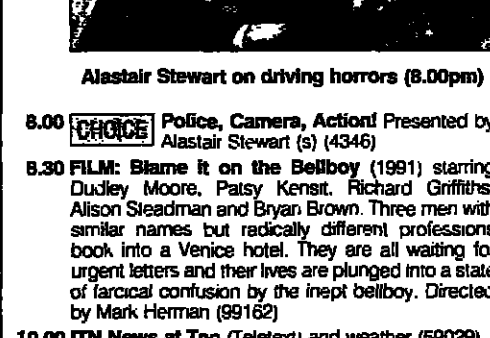
Marcel Marceau served to both wars (10.00pm)



Geoff and Cheryl Thornton, in love (8.00pm)



Julie Flint on crime in Britain (C4, 9.00pm)



Alastair Stewart on driving horrors (8.00pm)



Kelly Haywood and Michel Apuka (11.10pm)

- People's Century: 1919 — Lost Peace** (C) (81384)
- 10.55pm FILM: Ordinary People** (1980) starring Mary Tyler Moore and Donald Sutherland. Oscar-winning family drama about the effect that an accidental death of one of their number has on the rest of them. Directed by Robert Redford (C) (C) (8320029)
- 12.55pm FILM: This is a Man's World** (1973) starring Adam Roarke, Neville Brand, Jay Robinson, Lynn Borden and Milt Karmel. A compulsive gambler, deeply in debt, takes one of the biggest risks of his life when he plans to gain control of a jet and hold his boss to ransom. The stakes are high and the odds are long. Starring Robert Redford with a mysterious passenger on board. Directed by Barry Pollack (8822476)
- 2.25pm Weather** (5148105)

- 8.00pm It's for You — The Life and Times of the Telephone**. The last in the series looks at the future of the telephone. (C) (C) (192)
- 8.30pm Old Year Trolley with Lloyd Grossman**. The series on supermarket shopping concludes with a look at what shopping might be like in the year 2000. (C) (C) (955)
- 9.00pm Degrees of Error**. The final episode of the medical thriller starring Beth Goddard. (C) (C) (452278)
- 9.55pm Close Up**. Joe Dante selects a scene from *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (C) (172636)
- 10.00pm Grace under Fire**. (C) (C) (59075)
- 10.30pm Newsnight**. (C) (C) (837346)
- 11.15pm The Spin**. Media magazine series (508520)
- 11.55pm Weather** (517162)
- 12.00am A Future with AIDS** (94292). Ends at 12.30am
- 2.00pm Night School: Primary Science** (28056)
- 4.00pm BBC Focus: Benefits Agency Today** (1824821) 4.15pm *Teletext Training: Non-Linear Editing* (50582) 4.45pm *Disability Today* (4967582) 5.00pm *Voluntary Sector: Television*. Featuring Citizen's Service, advice on incapacity benefit and the new Guide Dogs for the Blind video (50495)

- VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes**
- The new VideoPlus+ system is a revolutionary new way of watching video. It allows you to programme your video recorder to watch a particular video at a particular time. For more details on VideoPlus+ go to the Video PlusCodes section on page 10 of the Video PlusCodes booklet. For more details on VideoPlus+ go to the Video PlusCodes section on page 10 of the Video PlusCodes booklet.

- 8.00 CHOICE** Police, Camera, Action! Presented by Alastair Stewart (C) (4346)
- 8.30pm FILM: Blame it on the Bellboy** (1981) starring Dudley Moore, Patsy Kensit, Richard Griffiths, Alison Steadman and Bryan Brown. Three men with similar names but radically different professions book into a Venice hotel. They are all waiting for urgent letters and their lives are plunged into a state of farcical confusion by the inept bellboy. Directed by Mark Herman (99162)
- 10.00pm ITN News at Ten** (C) (7509663)
- 10.30pm London Tonight** (C) (425)
- 10.40pm Carlton Sport**. Bob Wilson and Ian St John introduce highlights of tonight's Coca-Cola Cup second round, second leg ties. (8399181)
- 12.00pm Tales from the Crypt** (98018)
- 12.30pm Profile of Singer-songwriter Kirsty MacColl** (C) (6774143)
- 12.40pm The Little Picture Show** (919230)
- 1.40pm The Album Show** (C) (3561211)
- 2.40pm Hollywood Report** (C) (7682308)
- 3.00pm America's Top Ten** (C) (86980747)
- 3.30pm Sport AM** (C) (3015476)
- 4.25pm Profile** (C) (44788143)
- 4.35pm One Life to Live** (24022921)
- 5.00pm Vanessa** (C) (C) (47921)
- 5.30pm ITN Morning News** ends 6.00 (99747)

- 11.10pm Battered Britain: Blazed** (C) (C) (820568)
- 11.50pm Devil's Advocate**. Darcus Howe investigates the phenomenon of milk-drinking statues (C) (122346)
- 12.35pm FILM: Joyriders** (1988) starring Patricia Kean, Andrew Connolly, Bill Whitnaw and David Kelly. A drama, first seen as a part of *Film on Four*, about a battered wife who, after leaving her two daughters in care in Dublin, takes to the road with a car thief. Directed by Asing Walsh. (C) (380560)
- 2.20am Jools Holland Big Band Inside** (C) (9131650). Ends at 3.20

VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA**
- As London except: 12.55pm *Coronation Street* (9125365) 1.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 1.55pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 2.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 3.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 3.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 4.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 4.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 5.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 5.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 6.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 6.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 7.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 7.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 8.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 8.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 9.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 9.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 10.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 10.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 11.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 11.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 12.00pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 12.30pm *Home and Away* (9125365) 1.00am *Home and Away* (9125365) 1.30am *Home and Away* (9125365) 2.00am *Home and Away* (9125365) 2.30am *Home and Away* (9125365) 3.00am *Home and Away* (9125365) 3.30am *Home 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Blackburn bargain for Bohinen

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□ Angel Beltré is predicting success at the second attempt when he tackles Eamonn Loughran for the Irishman's World Boxing Organisation welterweight title in Belfast on Saturday. The Dominican Republic boxer's hopes of taking Loughran's crown in May ended when a clash of heads left Beltré cowering in blood.